

Hafa Adai!

Judge orders Fitia to pay \$2K
in restitution to govt.

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Notorious habitual offender
Blas is found guilty.

» PAGE 7

Saipan Tribune

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75¢

USCIS lowers CW cap by 1,000

» Drop in CW cap underscores need for
'deep look' at planned development

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal government announced yesterday a 1,000-count cut in the number of contract workers allowed in the CNMI, a move seen by business leaders as troubling given that the projected need for labor to meet multi-billion dollar projects in the CNMI far exceeds the number of needed workers projected and on the ground.

Still no trace of Zhao

» Neighbor says
husband treats
Zhao like a queen

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Authorities failed yesterday to locate Mei Hua Zhao, a 25-year-old scuba diving instructor who has been missing since Tuesday morning.

Acting Department of Public Safety spokesman Jason Tarkong said there's no update but that the search and investigation are continuing.

Guang Zhe Xuan, husband of Zhao, told *Saipan Tribune* last night that he is still waiting for police to inform him of any de-

velopments.

Xuan appealed to members of the public who may have information on his wife's whereabouts to step forward and help

See ZHAO on Page 4



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services set yesterday the annual limit for CW permits for fiscal year 2016 at 12,999, a drop of one thousand from last fiscal year's 13,999 cap.

There is a reported near 11,000 CW workers in the

See USCIS on Page 4

BSI to compete for Mariana Resort land

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. confirmed yesterday a planned and aggressive pursuit of lands currently held by Mariana Resort & Spa in Marpi, one of the CNMI's few remaining ties to a weakening Japanese tourist market, as the Hong Kong-based casino company now reveals plans to complete their multi-billion dollar casino resort project in the coveted Marpi area where they plan to build the world's largest water park, thousands of hotel rooms,

See BSI on Page 4

In this photo provided by a family friend, Mei Hua Zhao plays with her son, Adam, and their dog, Tiger.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Alter City proposes Aerobus transit system



This artist's sketch shows the proposed Aerobus—a patented elevated transportation system that would link Saipan and Tinian.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Alter City Group, which plans to build a world-class resort on Tinian called the Plumeria Golf & Casino Resort, is proposing an elevated transportation system that would link Saipan and Tinian—at no cost to the CNMI government.

In a statement yesterday, it said that Alter City Group president and board chair Kin Ian Leong has recognized

the CNMI's need for a public transportation system that not only serves its local population but can bridge the gap between Saipan and Tinian. The benefits from connecting the two islands are extensive, the most beneficial outcome being the ability to provide the people of Saipan and Tinian a reliable public transportation system that provides access

to life's essentials and idyllic destinations.

Leong introduces the Aerobus—a patented elevated transportation system that utilizes concrete or slender steel pylons to elevate suspension cables (similar to those used for the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, California) that serves as a guideway for pas-

See ALTER on Page 4

INSIDE



ASIA

A new insurance plan guards Chinese good Samaritans against scams by the elderly.

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WORLD

Bashar Assad's meeting with Vladimir Putin could signal a political settlement to the Syria crisis.

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LIFE & STYLE

Filipino director Brilante Mendoza takes center stage at the Tokyo International Film Festival.

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Local

Rep. Sablan blasts Pete A. land policy

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Vinson Sablan (Ind-Saipan) has responded to allegations of “misconceptions” in a House resolution he authored and was passed unanimously by the House in July.

Sablan, in a statement yesterday, was referring to Department of Public Lands Secretary Pete A. Tenorio’s letter to Kan Pacific that claimed the CNMI Constitution prevents DPL from entering into a new lease with Mariana Resort before their lease expires and before the land reverts back to the government.

DPL announced in June this year its decision to seek competitive bids for the Mariana

Resort property. In July, Sablan filed House Resolution 19-29, “encouraging the administration and the secretary of Public Lands to negotiate a new lease [for] Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd.”

“Secretary Tenorio stated that there were some misconceptions but failed to elaborate on any. I am aware that the resolution cannot bind DPL to negotiate or enter into a new lease with Kan Pacific. In fact, the language used in the resolution states ‘to encourage.’ I’m sure we all understand what that term entails, so I feel there are no misconceptions in regards to that general statement,” Sablan said.

Tenorio declined to comment on the Kan Pacific issue yesterday.

The “whereas clauses” that were stated in HR 19-26 referenced several correspondences between DPL and Kan Pacific Ltd., Sablan said.

“Let’s start with the resolution which garnered a 17-0 vote on the floor. All supporting documents for the resolution were provided to each voting member. So, if there were any misconceptions, I’m sure one of us would have identified them. Second, in May 2013, DPL started communicating with Kan Pacific. In fact, Secretary Tenorio wrote a letter to Kan Pacific dated May 16, 2013, which is clearly negotiating. There is a clear difference between negotiating and signing

See REP. on Page 11



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'Focus of proposed drug court are those with drug history'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The focus of the proposed CNMI drug court is for those who have a history of drug abuse, according to Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman.

Drug-related crime offenders who have serious criminal records and addiction are also eligible for the drug court, said retired Utah judge Steven Hansen.

Wiseman and Hansen explained how a drug court works during yesterday's CNMI Bar Association meeting at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's Restaurant.

Wiseman said all 50 states have at least one drug court and the scourge of methamphetamine or "ice" has driven a momentum to establish one in the CNMI. He said the consensus is that now is the best time to have a drug court to solve the problem with "ice."

The judge said Gov. Eloy S. Inos and lawmakers are exploring ways to fund drug court programs.

"Drug courts are problem-solving courts that recognize the problem and address it in a highly-targeted evidence-based fashion. It's why drug courts receive universal acclaim for its results," Wiseman said.

He said the proposed CNMI drug court will be a specialized,

problem-solving court that incorporates drug dependency treatment with intensive court supervision for qualifying defendants.

Wiseman said the drug court starts when someone is arrested for a drug-related crime, then the prosecutor and the defense attorney decide whether this drug offender is eligible for drug court.

A drug offender will be presented with a program contract,

which may offer no prison term if he or she completes drug court without issue.

Wiseman said the court may review that contract and allow the drug offender into a drug court program that will regularly administer drug tests, provide counseling, and intensive supervision.

In some cases, Wiseman said, drug offenders who complete the program will have a real shot at getting employed without having the weight of a drug-related criminal record.

He said most drug courts

have members of the community, civic, and other groups as active participants in the program, which can assist with family matters during treatment, line up possible job prospects, and provide a variety of other needs.

Hansen, who has successfully implemented two drug courts in the U.S. mainland, is currently here on Saipan from Provo, Utah, to help with the formation of the CNMI's drug court.

Hansen told Bar members how a drug court works and discussed the drug court agreement with a defendant.

Hansen said in this program, judicial leadership is very important because judges will be involved in discussions with lawyers and other members.

He emphasized that commu-

nity participation is also very important. "I'm glad we have people who are willing to work with this program."

Hansen urged lawyers to enter their clients in the program.

The retired judge said that, as a balancing act, a judge can't be tough because it will destroy the incentive.

"We don't impose sanctions too quickly," Hansen pointed out.

He said the drug court wants participants to graduate after a year of treatment.



Wiseman



Hansen

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ALTER

From Page 1

senger and cargo cars.

An Aerobus vehicle consists of modules that are linked together into an articulated, integrated train. On its fifth generation, Aerobus technology has a zinc coating that prevents

the occurrence of rust on this system.

This proposed transit system includes six stations that will run along the west side of Saipan (Beach Road), and two stations in the south, including one at the Saipan International Airport, before stretching across the channel and connecting to Tinian, where four stations are

proposed, including the Tinian Airport and the resort.

As tourism numbers are projected to reach 1.5 million per year, the presence of a reliable transportation system that can also serve as a tourist attraction becomes crucial. In the beginning stages, the proposed system will look to transport 1,000 passengers per

hour, per direction. Quantity and frequency can increase as the demand arises.

According to ACG, the Aerobus is the lowest cost, most efficient, least environmentally-disruptive light rail transit system available. An Aerobus system offers unmatched advantages over conventional monorails, people movers and low-cable

technologies.

Alter City Group Inc. has been in the planning stages for its proposed Plumeria Golf & Casino Resort for two years

now. The project includes not only a world-class resort, but a casino, an 18-hole golf course, and a themed water park, just to name a few. (ACG)

USCIS

From Page 1

CNMI right now.

The cap set yesterday was an excepted drop mandated by federal law. However, the law does not mandate a specific amount in the reduction, according to the Department of Homeland Security. They said the caps would be reasonably calculated to reduce the number of CW workers by the end of the program in 2019, but also doing it in consideration of its effect on continued economic growth in the CNMI

that may result in the need for more CW workers, according to a pre-publication notice released yesterday.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-Saipan), in a statement yesterday, said that lowering the CW cap is a “call for more U.S. workers,” noting that this means “employers must continue to find more ways to hire U.S. workers, if growth is to continue.”

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Alex Sablan said that losing that 1,000 CWs is not welcome.

“When we have roughly six large developments right now,

[the drop] is not a good thing... We’ve made it very clear that we don’t have sufficient local workforce and a sufficient CW workforce or national workforce. We actually need more workers for all of what is being planned through economic development through tourism and casino gaming and hotel development,” Sablan said.

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. executives, for one, disclosed yesterday ambitious plans to build a kilometer-long mall strip, the world’s largest water park, and thousands of hotel rooms in Marpi. That would require over 10,000

workers, executives said.

The Chamber president said the government keeps handing out permits to build but the CNMI is not stopping to figure out if it has enough personnel or enough CW permits.

“The economy is growing. And we know we have a contract with Best Sunshine for 2,000 rooms [in original plans]. They have already announced they need 5,000 workers. We currently have somewhere in the neighborhood of 11,000 workers in the CW program today and they need 5,000 workers and so we are obviously well short.”

BSI

From Page 1

and state-of-the-art shopping facilities, according to top casino executives in a news briefing yesterday.

At the same time, casino executives defended Department of Public Lands Secretary Pete A. Tenorio’s decision to bid out the lease to the lands held by Mariana Resort in 2018, saying “this is a business” and Tenorio “had a job to do” and a responsibility to benefit the public interest. The resort had claimed that putting out the lease to bid would be a breach of its lease agreement with the government.

When asked yesterday if Best Sunshine would compete for the bid to lease the Mariana Resort property, Best Sunshine chief executive officer Mark Brown said, “Of course.”

Saipan Tribune asked how competitive their bid is, and Brown said, “There has been no bid” yet, as the process has not started.

Brown described yesterday “Phase 1” of their projected \$7 billion casino investment, the Grand Mariana Resort project in Garapan, which is currently undergoing construction.

This would be the first location—along with their gaming training facility—totaling more than \$2 billion in investments, according to Brown’s estimate yesterday. The Garapan site is currently the only public land leased to their company.

“Phase II,” according to Brown, would hopefully be sited in Marpi, rather than in “piecemeal” locations across the island.

“We are searching everywhere, the entire island. We’ve made offers to other areas also. We didn’t concentrate only on Marpi,” he said.

Brown explained that the “the design, the site, and multiple properties” that they want

to build on the Marpi property would be “incredible for the island for Saipan and would help the people of Saipan.”

“Because of the parcel of the land—where it is situated—the beauty of it. [It is] the one piece where you could put together an incredible resort. ...Name another piece that big, that beautiful on the water. That doesn’t exist on the island, really.”

“That’s why we want that to be our next site,” Brown said. “When it goes to bid—like any other company that is going to come bid for the site—we will aggressively make a bid to get this.”

When contacted yesterday, Mariana Resort general manager Gloria Cavanagh said “no comment” as of now.

In a letter Wednesday to DPL, Kan Pacific argued that a bid on their property meant a “breach” of its lease agreement with the government, as the letter alleged DPL’s failure to meet commitments to negotiate a new lease, and that any transition of property back to the government required a five-year notice, a deadline that had passed, according to their lease agreement.

DPL Secretary Pete A. Tenorio also declined to comment yesterday.

When asked if Best Sunshine could approach Mariana Resort for the remaining years of their lease, Brown said, “I don’t think they will even talk to us.” He also said there have been no offers from the resort for the remaining years.

Promise of investment

Responding to Kan Pacific’s statement Wednesday that Best Sunshine “came along” and interrupted ongoing negotiations between them and DPL, Brown said this was “obvious.”

Best Sunshine was awarded its casino license in July 2014, months after negotiations between DPL and Kan Pacific began. They sent DPL a letter

in August 2014 expressing a specific interest in the Mariana Resort property.

“...If Best Sunshine hadn’t come along, you wouldn’t have this conversation right now,” Brown said. “They would have just moved forward with it. But again, this is business...[Tenorio] has a job to do. He has to do the best possible business deal for the people of Saipan, and where the government is going to make more money, and what’s going to bring up the economy [of] Saipan.

“And I think when he looks at—comparing a \$40 million to \$75 million upgrade of the Mariana Resort versus billions of dollars of properties and jobs... you look at the jobs we’ve created already,” he said, pointing to 450 employees, 250 of whom are locals, he said, with more planned.

“We keep our word,” he said.

Asked if Best Sunshine has ever proposed to DPL any amount for the property, Brown said, “No.”

“That was the last letter from Terence Tay,” he said, referring to the August 2014 letter to DPL. “There have been no monies that have been talked about. No negotiations as far as money goes.”

“There is really nothing to negotiate,” added Tao Xing, chief service officer of Imperial Pacific, BSI’s mother company. “DPL has to determine whether there is an RFP and the timing.”

Brown said they made DPL aware of their interest in the land in 2014 but they could not negotiate until it goes out to bid.

Time clock

Brown explained that as soon as the license was granted, they were immediately “under a time clock” to start building on Saipan, confirming surveys of the Marpi property and other Marpi lands around that time in 2014.

“That was a prime location with a lease that will come up

in 2015. That’s exactly where we are going to be in 25 years,” he said, referring to their lease in Garapan. Brown said there could be another company 25 to 40 years from now that will bid for their own property.

“We have a timeline,” said Xing. “We have a commitment to the amount of investment. It’s our due diligence to pursue all the possibilities in terms of land. Had we not done that, then that would be remiss on our part.”

“If we don’t find the land, build on time, we get fined very heavily,” Brown said. “But once we break ground,” Best Sunshine will release within 60 days the \$20 million “community chest” fund on top of the yearly \$15 million license fee.

“And when we say aggressively—we’ve made it known that we are willing to pay that \$20 million up front, if we get that piece of land. We wouldn’t wait 60 days.”

Brown said they would create 3,000 jobs in Garapan with their resort. He said they would create “10,000 jobs and more” on the Marpi site.

“Whatever land we take, we will hire every employee that is there,” he said.

Brown said Phase 1 would open up by the end of next year with roughly 3,000 employees.

“Phase 2, we are talking about the world’s largest water park, 20 hotels, and a one-kilometer long shopping strip. So that’s the scale,” Xing said.

“Because the beach is really non-existent there,” Brown added. “That’s why we would build the largest water park in the world, thousands and thousands of hotel rooms, thousands and thousands of jobs.”

“Your other \$5 billion—the water park, there are so many things—we are trying to make it ‘green,’ we are going to have electric cars, solar, all those things—it just continually creates more and more jobs,” he added.

ZHAO

From Page 1

investigators.

Xuan, 45, is president of Blue Ocean Tinian Corp., which owns Go Pro Diving on Tinian. The couple opened a branch in Gualo Rai on Saipan only last month.

Christina Zuccaro, a neighbor of the couple on Tinian, told *Saipan Tribune* that Zhao is very good at getting customers because she is “so fun to be with” and a loving person.

Zuccaro said Zhao went to Saipan on Sunday because their place on Tinian was flooded on Friday due to the typhoon. She said that Zhao came over to her place on Friday and told her that on Saipan, where she takes care of their business, she has been going up and down the Grotto steps thrice a day, taking customers for snorkeling or diving. Zuccaro described her friend as “very athletic.”

Zuccaro said that Zhao’s husband, Xuan, is a long-time resident of Tinian and has a sister who has a restaurant/night club on that island.

She said it was only a year or so ago when the couple established their diving business on Saipan.

Xuan takes care of customers on Tinian, while Zhao gets customers on Saipan.

Whenever Xuan leaves for Saipan, Zuccaro said she helps take care of their dogs and watch their house.

She said the couple’s son, who was born on Saipan, currently staying in China.

REP.

From Page 2

a lease agreement. Secretary Tenorio stated that he is prohibited from negotiating “a new lease with Kan Pacific” until the lease reverts back to DPL.

Sablan noted content in the contract between DPL and Kan Pacific that states DPL must inform Kan Pacific five years before the lease is terminated.

“Against the Constitution?” Sablan asked, referring to DPL’s claim it is prohibited from entering into a new lease with Kan Pacific. “First, Section 5 in Article 11 states that ‘The corporation may not transfer an interest in public land that exceeds 25 years, including renewal rights. An extension of not more than 15 years may be given upon approval of three-fourths of the members of the Legislature.’

“There were several correspondences between DPL and Kan Pacific where the term ‘extend’ was used. The May 16, 2013, letter from Secretary Tenorio is one of them. Nothing

“We have been neighbors for years on Tinian,” Zuccaro said. “They are both very good people.”

She said people on Tinian respect Xuan as a hard working man like his sister, Jenny, and that he treats Zhao like a queen.

She described Zhao as “an artist, a musician, a singer, and an awesome cook.”

“We just want her back home,” she said.

Xuan disclosed that his last communication with his wife was on Monday afternoon when she called him on Tinian, saying she’s already at their shop in Gualo Rai after a diving excursion with customers.

Xuan said a tour guide called him on Tuesday at about 9am because she did not show up to pick up customers for a scheduled dive tour.

He said he then called Zhao, to no avail.

Zhao’s white Toyota Tacoma with license plate ACW-383 was found by her friends on Tuesday afternoon parked behind Joker’s Bar, which is near McDonald’s Mobil gas station in Garapan. The vehicle was locked, police said.

Last Jan. 17, Saipan Fresh Market owner Zhi Yuan Li was reported missing. The following morning, police recovered Li’s Toyota Tacoma pickup truck abandoned on a dirt road between Ladder Beach and Obyan Beach. A family member offered a \$50,000 cash reward to anyone who can provide information leading to Li’s location—whether he’s still alive or already dead. Li remains missing.

in the Constitution mentions anything about a new lease; it only states an extension. Nothing in the statute states anything about a new lease either. There is also no place where the statute states that the land must revert back to DPL before any negotiations take place.”

In light of the Kan Pacific-DPL controversy, Sablan now says that the question to be asked is: “Is this the way we are going to handle all the leases of public land?”

“Is Secretary Tenorio saying that we need to wait for the 11th hour to negotiate new leases? If this is the case, I’m not sure if any investor will see this as good business practice. It is very clear that DPL led Kan Pacific into thinking that a new lease was going to be the outcome. All we are concerned about here is consistency in how public lands are dealt with. We can’t keep jumping all over the place. One day we talk about an extension, the next a new lease, and then an RFP. Personally, I am unaware of any misconceptions in HR 19-26,” he said.

Judge orders Fitial to pay \$2K in restitution to govt

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has ordered former governor Benigno R. Fitial to pay \$2,000 in restitution to the CNMI government for the damage he caused the Commonwealth resulting from his criminal conviction.

In an order on Wednesday, Wiseman gave Fitial 15 days to pay the full amount.

Attorney George L. Hasselback, as counsel for the gov-

ernment, and attorney Stephen J. Nutting, as counsel for Fitial, submitted to court on Wednesday an agreement for Fitial to pay restitution in the amount of \$2,000.

Hasselback and Nutting agreed to give the former governor 15 days to pay the amount in full from the day of the court's order accepting their agreement for payment.

The restitution is the only remaining issue in Fitial's case.

Last Aug. 18, Fitial, through Nutting, paid the \$6,000 fine

and \$100 court assessment fee that the court imposed on him.

Fitial pleaded guilty in May to misconduct in public office and conspiracy to commit theft of service as part of a plea deal.

The offense of misconduct in public office refers to the time when Fitial had his masseuse—a Chinese woman who was

at that time a federal prisoner at the Department of Corrections—temporarily released so she could massage him at his house on Jan. 8, 2010.

The conspiracy to commit theft of services refers to Fitial's role in former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham's efforts to evade lawful service

of process during his departure from the CNMI at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport on Aug. 3 or 4, 2010.

Last June 23, Wiseman imposed a one-year prison sen-

tence on the 69-year-old Fitial.

The former governor was supposed to start serving his prison term last July 6, but Gov. Eloy S. Inos commuted the prison term a day before.

16 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged 16 Saipan beaches and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Affected sites Paupau Beach, San Roque School, Plumaria Hotel, Aqua Resort Hotel, Tanapag Meeting Hall, Smiling Cove Marina, Micro Beach, Fiesta Resort drainage, Hyatt Regency, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Samoa Housing, Grandvrio Resort, Grandvrio drainage, Garapan Fishing

Dock, Garapan Fishing Drain, and Garapan Beach.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. **(DEQ)**

SCC seminar on independent power, DVR security systems

Are you frustrated with power loss and Internet outages? Find solutions to operate safely during these difficulties.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce welcomes the public to a three-hour seminar about solar power generation and DVR security camera systems. It will be held on Oct. 28, 2015, Wednesday, from 9am to 12pm, at the Marianas Business Plaza Suite 315.

Ron Smith of Angil Design

will talk about independent power system, while Brian Clayton of Megabyte will discuss digital security cameras. Both are very relevant topics after the extended power outages experienced on island. Let's be prepared for the next one!

Seating is limited to the first 40 paid attendees. The cost of attending is reduced to \$10 for this seminar only, offered as a special disaster recovery rate. To register, call (670) 234-7150. **(SCC)**

SSHS PTSA seeks donors for Halloween costumes

Saipan Southern High School PTSA officers and school principal Martha Kintol are reaching out to SSHS parents, teachers, and students to join the school help PSS Student & Support Services collect costumes for our kids.

The "Halloween Costume Drive" is looking for gently

worn costumes in good condition, new costumes, and pledges to donate costumes. All costumes will be distributed to children in need, in time for Halloween on Oct. 31.

All donated costumes may be dropped off at the Joeten Superstore on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015, from 9am to 5pm. **(PR)**



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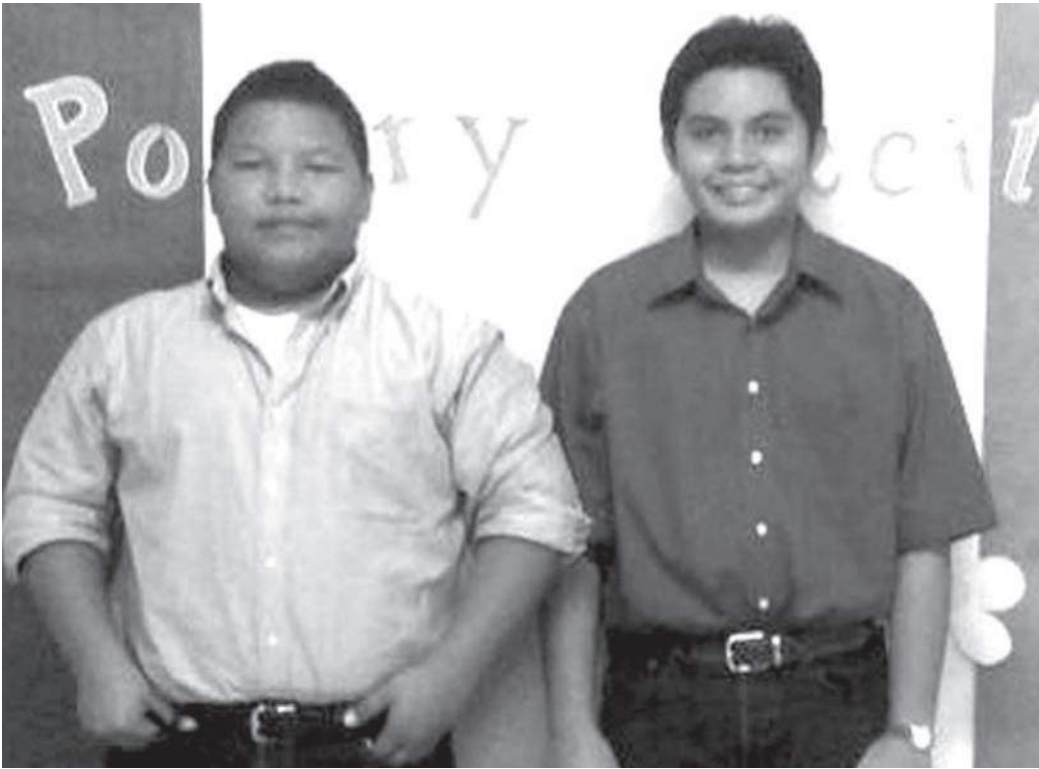


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Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja students Jeremy John Atalig II, left, and Angelo S. Lucero.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lucero, Atalig win ESFDB Sengebau poetry contest

When did you last hear students of Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja recite poetry by heart? Only last year, when the school won the junior division of the 11th Annual Valentine N. Sengebau Poetry Competition for the second time in a row.

In preparation for the 12th Annual Valentine N. Sengebau event, parents and guests gathered at As Paris Restaurant on Oct. 17, 2015, to listen, watch, and enjoy the school level 2nd Valentine N. Sengebau Poetry Recital, and musical talent and literary performance.

"Poetry is an accessible and personal art form for all ages to enjoy," said administrator/

principal Carmen H. Atalig. "Congratulations must be given to the students for their participation and dedication to learning their poems, musical number, and dances. And a big thank you to the teachers who assisted in the students' God-given talents."

Last year's 11th Annual Valentine N. Sengebau's junior division school representative Angelo Lucero and 7th grader Jeremy John Atalig II will represent the school in the 12th annual competition.

"I am excited. I want to bring back the perpetual plaque back to our school," said Lucero.

"Angelo and I will try our best

to defend our title," said Atalig.

Introduced to the school by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council two years ago, the competition proved to be a success with students scouring poetry anthologies from Sengebau.

"The students learned that poetry doesn't have to rhyme, and that figurative language can help all styles of writing," said board chair Edward Maratita Jr. "Congratulations, students, on your participation and for a great performance and a special congratulations goes to our two finalists, Angelo and Jeremy." (ESFDB)

EARLY BIRD MADNESS SALE

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LOCATIONS - Saipan & Rota

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Japanese Society to host Autumn Festival on Oct. 24

The Japanese Society of Northern Marianas will be hosting the Japanese Society Charity Autumn Festival this Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015, at the Sugar King Park in Garapan. The public is invited to join the event, which will last from 11am to 2pm. The festival will feature a bazaar, raffle games, ring toss, shooting game, super ball, water balloon fishing, and stage performances. Food will be also sold, including yaki-soba, kara-age, yaki-meshi, tako-yaki, shaved ice, cuny rice, beef bowl, ramen, oden, sauce-senbei, yaki-tori, etc. (PR)

Election of Saipan little league board this Saturday

Please inform all interested members that the nomination

and voting for the 2015 and 2016 board of directors for the Saipan Little League Baseball Inc. will be held this coming Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015, at 10am at Ada Gym pavilion. (PR)

Pink Warrior Walkathon this Saturday

The Pink Warrior Walkathon will be held this Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015. Registration starts at 6am at the Naked Fish parking lot where you'll submit your pledge forms. Children get a DFEMS fire helmet when \$100 is pledged. Adults get a pink DFEMS T-shirt when \$100 is pledged. Pledge forms are available at all fire stations and Bank of Guam Garapan. All proceeds go to the Commonwealth Cancer Association in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Join firemen after the walk for a firetruck hands-on display. (DFEMS)



MEETING NOTICE



Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby gives notice that a Regular Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Tuesday October 27, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the Chamolinian Room - Hyatt Regency Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

- 1) Preliminary Matters**
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes - September 23, 2015
- 2) Public Comments**
- 3) Committee Reports**
 1. Finance
 2. Personnel
- 4) Old Business**
 1. FY 2016 Expenditure Plan
 2. Collaterals
- 5) New Business**
 1. Japan Airlift Development Plan
 2. Encumbrances for expenses under P.L. 19-08
- 6) Miscellaneous/Announcements**
- 7) Executive Session**
- 8) Adjournment**

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
Chair, MVA Board of Directors

Notorious habitual offender found guilty

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorres@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Notorious habitual offender Ramon Cabrera Blas was found guilty yesterday of all charges for burglarizing an apartment complex in San Vicente and stealing a couple's jewelry, money, and other items last year.

After deliberating for less than an hour, the six jurors found Blas guilty of burglary and theft.

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio, who presided over the jury trial, also found Blas guilty of criminal mischief and disturbing the peace.

Blas will be sentenced on Dec. 22, 2015, at 9am.

Kim-Tenorio said the female victim testified that she was inside her apartment unit when she noticed a man, later identified as Blas, on the balcony of her house, who then walked toward their sliding door in the afternoon of Aug. 21, 2014. The victim stated she was so scared she told Blas twice to leave, but he refused to do so.

Assistant public defender Michael Sato and Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig refused to issue any comment after the hearing.

Acting chief prosecutor Chester Hinds, who assisted assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas during the trial, commended Barcinas for

“doing an excellent job presenting the case.”

“Burglaries are [an] epidemic in this community and we are very pleased with the jury's decision,” Hinds said.



Hinds



Barcinas

Barcinas said Blas faces a maximum imprisonment of 11 years for all four charges.

Considering that Blas is a habitual offender who has a long list of prior criminal convictions, Barcinas said the government will be recommending the maximum sentence.

The trial began on Monday. The prosecution called five witnesses. The defense called one witness.

The jurors began deliberations yesterday at 8:30am. At 9:15am or 9:20am, the jurors sent a note to the judge that they have reached a unanimous verdict.

The apartment complex where the couple stays is owned by retired Superior Court Associate Judge Juan T. Lizama.

Police detective Catherine Pangelinan testified about their investigation that led to the search of Blas' house and his arrest in November 2014.

Pangelinan testified that among the items they recovered at Blas' residence was a necklace that belonged to one of the victims.

The detective said Blas

confessed committing the crimes and even led her and other investigators to the locations where he hid other stolen items.

Blas burglarized the same apartment unit on Aug. 9, 2014, and stole the couple's jewelry, money, and other items worth \$22,875, police said.

Last June, Superior Court Associate Judge David Wiseman imposed a three-year prison term on the 56-year-old Blas for violating his probation.

Wiseman noted that Blas has had a multitude of charges filed against him over a 30-year period, resulting in no less than 13 criminal convictions.



GRANDVRIO RESORT
SAIPAN

To Our Valued Customers: Tropicana Restaurant (2nd floor of Taga Tower) in Grandvrio Resort Saipan will be adjusted as the following new schedule. We are sorry for any inconvenience to you.

RESTAURANT INFORMATION FOR OCTOBER 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Sunday Brunch \$22 11:30am-2:00pm	12 Buffet Lunch \$14 Buffet Dinner \$25	13 Buffet Lunch \$14	14 Buffet Lunch \$14 Buffet Dinner \$25	15 A La Carte	16 Buffet Lunch \$14	17 Buffet Lunch \$14 Buffet Dinner \$25
18 Sunday Brunch \$22 11:30am-2:00pm	19 Buffet Lunch \$14	20 A La Carte	21 A La Carte	22 Buffet Lunch \$14 Buffet Dinner \$25	23 Buffet Lunch \$14	24 Buffet Lunch \$14 Buffet Dinner \$25
25 Sunday Brunch \$22 11:00am-2:00pm	26 A La Carte	27 Buffet Lunch \$14 Buffet Dinner \$25	28 Buffet Lunch \$14 Buffet Dinner \$25	29 Buffet Lunch \$14	30 Buffet Lunch \$14	31 A La Carte

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» Jurors deliberated less than an hour

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MCS celebrates cultural diversity with foreign students

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Mt. Carmel School continued its long tradition of celebrating cultural diversity in the CNMI on Wednesday, with students, parents, faculty, and staff marking the daylong event with a parade, field games, and classroom activities.

Showcasing cultures ranging from China to India and Palau to Thailand, each class from first grade through twelfth prepared performances, food, and banners as well as dressed in clothing representative of their respective cultures.

A total of 110 students from Ukeinishi Junior and Senior High School in Japan joined

MCS in its annual Cultural Diversity Day.

School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero expressed his gratitude for the visiting students' presence, which was made possible in part by the Marianas Visitors Authority in an effort to foster a greater appreciation of diversity among the island youth.

In his remarks, Guerrero explained the importance of cultural diversity and its role in uniting people, especially students, in the Marianas. He said that diversity does not divide, but instead unites people from all walks of life.

Guerrero exchanged school gifts with Ukeinishi principal Shigeto Kitatani, who explained how his school's visit allowed its students to immerse themselves in the island's culture.

"We understand the pain the recent typhoon brought and still continues to bring," he noted.

"Thank you for having us and showing your island's beauty."

The Ukeinishi student council president expressed similar sentiments and said that she and her friends enjoyed their time with their island counterparts.

The visiting students presented cultural dances and songs to the MCS student body, and did a presentation about popular cities in Japan.

As a part of its celebration, the MCS student council hosted a poster contest, which called on students to draw the cultural face of the NMI. Students also wrote

poems and essays explaining how cultural diversity has contributed positively to the islands.

"The most important positive effect of cultural diversity is the development of relationships. As children growing up, we recognize the differences between ourselves and others," essay champion and junior student Brianna Hunter said. "Not all of our facial features are similar, we may not speak the same language or even eat the same food. However, with constant exposure to an array of friends, classmates and teachers of different ethnicities, we come to appreciate everyone for their unique cultural perspective and their individual being."

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

REVISED DRAFT EIS FOR DIVERT ACTIVITIES AND EXERCISES, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) announces the availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Divert Activities and Exercises, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for public review. The USAF requests comments on the Revised Draft EIS, which is available for download on the project website address listed below. Hard copies may be reviewed at the locations listed below.

The Revised Draft DEIS analyzes potential environmental impacts of modified versions of the alternatives originally presented in the June 2012 Draft EIS. Since June 2012, the USAF determined the policies and objectives of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) would be best served by preparing a Revised Draft EIS, and seeking additional comments on changes made as a result of comments received on the 2012 Draft EIS. Based on public and agency input into the 2012 Draft EIS, the USAF removed the following elements from each of the three modified alternatives in the Revised Draft EIS: runway extension; permanent navigational aids; aircraft hangar; munitions storage facilities; arm/disarm pad; tent lodging; and fighter aircraft operations.

The Proposed Action is to improve an existing airport or airports and associated infrastructure in support of expanding mission requirements and to achieve divert capabilities in the western Pacific. Under this action, the USAF proposes to construct facilities and infrastructure at an existing airport or airports to support a combination of cargo, tanker, and similar aircraft and associated support personnel for divert operations, periodic exercises, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

Proposed facilities would be used on an as-needed basis and would not be used as a permanent full-time beddown or installation location. Saipan International Airport and Tinian International Airport and small areas near the respective seaports are considered alternative locations for the Proposed Action. In accordance with NEPA and the USAF regulations for implementing NEPA in 32 CFR Part 989.19(e), the USAF prepared the Revised Draft EIS and is providing it to the public for review.

Electronic files can be downloaded from the project website address listed below. In addition, printed copies of the Revised Draft EIS will be available for review at the following locations:

Saipan: Saipan Office of the Mayor; Joeten-Kiyu Public Library

Tinian: Tinian Office of the Mayor; Tinian Public Library

Two Revised Draft EIS public meetings are scheduled, one in Saipan and one in Tinian. The public meetings will be open house format with poster stations. USAF representatives will be available to provide information and answer questions about the Revised Draft EIS, and comments will be accepted at the meetings. The open house meetings will be held in accordance with the following schedule:

Saipan: Wednesday, November 4, 2015, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Building D-1; Northern Marianas College, Susupe

Tinian: Thursday, November 5, 2015, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Tinian Elementary School Cafeteria

The public is encouraged to provide written comments to the USAF for consideration in preparing the Final EIS. Written comments may be submitted via postal mail, email, or the project website. All comments must be submitted or postmarked no later than November 30, 2015 EDT/December 1, 2015 ChST.

Mail comments to:

Ms. Ashley Conner, PACAF/PA
25 E Street, Suite G-108
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI 96853
ATTN: PACAF Divert Marianas EIS

Email comments to pacaf.paops@us.af.mil, or submit comments on the project website at:

www.PACAFDivertMarianasEIS.com.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Students from Ukeinishi Junior and Senior High School in Japan sing a song for Mt. Carmel students as a part of the school's annual celebration.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Third grade students dressed in traditional Chinese attire march in Mt. Carmel's Cultural Diversity Day parade on Wednesday.

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CHCC hosts visiting orthopedic surgeon

Dr. Steven Scott, a visiting orthopedic surgeon, is on island to provide services at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Scott, who has over 30 years of experience, will be providing services at the Family Care Clinic until Nov. 13, 2015, during regular business hours.

Among the services he offers are outpatient services, surgery, and evaluations, including di-

agnosing and treating musculoskeletal problems (bone and joint problems).

FCC urges patients to receive referrals first from their primary care doctor for appointments with Scott.

To request an appointment, contact the following numbers: 236-8309 Ext. 3305/3316/3500/3505, 236-8308, or 236-8374. **(CHCC)**

Emergency power outage Saturday afternoon

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will conduct an emergency power interruption along a portion of Feeder 3 Saturday, Oct. 24, to allow linemen safe access for the repair and straightening of leaning power poles on the primary lines.

At 12pm, CUC line crews will temporarily interrupt power service to CUC customers along

Chalan Pale Arnold between Quartermaster Road and Chalan Monsignor Guerrero. Work on the repairs is expected to take up to four hours to complete, at which time power will be restored to the area.

For more information, visit our website www.cucgov.org or contact CUC's Customer Call Center at 664-4CUC (664-4282). **(CUC)**

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy 5th birthday to my beautiful princess Genicia Mae! Hope you enjoy this enchanted day of yours and many more blessings to come. Love, from Mommy, Grammy, Gramps Tyquingco, Nina and Nino Juanlenne, and brother Kaiden.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy second birthday to our lil' handsome one, Zeph Rootz Lifofoi Camacho, who is celebrating his special day today, Oct. 23! We love you to the moon and back. Love, Mommy, Daddy, and your three brothers.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



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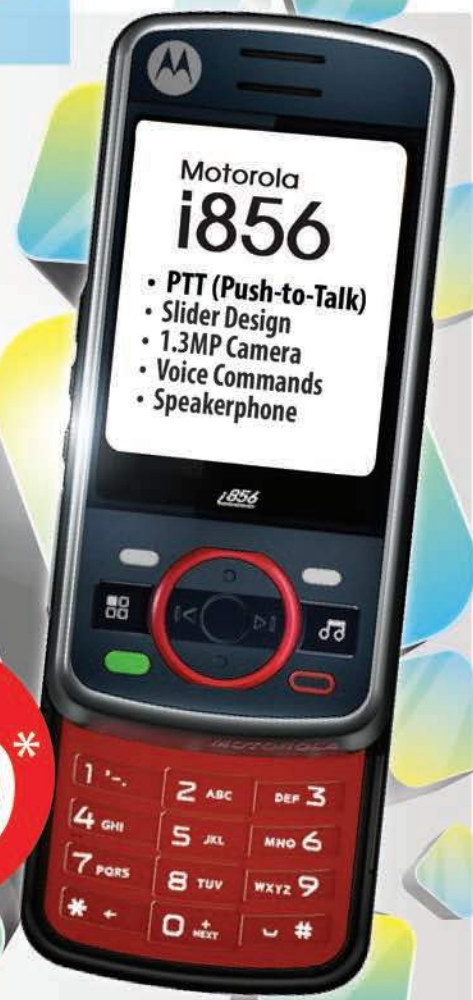
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

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EDITORIAL

Trudeau's ambition meets Canada's faltering economy

Canada wants change. Voters have pushed Stephen Harper's Conservatives out and, for the first time since the election of 2000, have given the centrist Liberal Party, led by Justin Trudeau, a parliamentary majority. It's a surprisingly big win that puts pressure on the Liberals to deliver.

This won't be easy. Trudeau has promised a program of reform that's comprehensive to a fault—touching on everything from legalizing marijuana to restoring “funding for Canada's four heavy urban search and rescue teams.” But these expansive ambitions will have to contend with an unhelpful economy.

During the election campaign, Harper mocked the youthful Trudeau as unready to govern. The tactic failed, but the charge will be remembered if the economy worsens.

Canada came through the global economic crisis that began in 2008 relatively unscathed. Its banks were strong and domestic demand didn't falter. These advantages can no longer be taken for granted. Slow global growth and the collapse in energy prices have ended Canada's impressive run. With Canadians tired of austerity and looking for fast answers, the country stands at a dangerous juncture.

Slumping global commodity prices have hurt Canada's main export business. The economy shrank in the first two quarters of 2015. And in its new global economic forecasts, the International Monetary Fund has cut its growth projections for Canada more sharply than for any other major economy. It now expects Canada to grow only 1 percent this year.

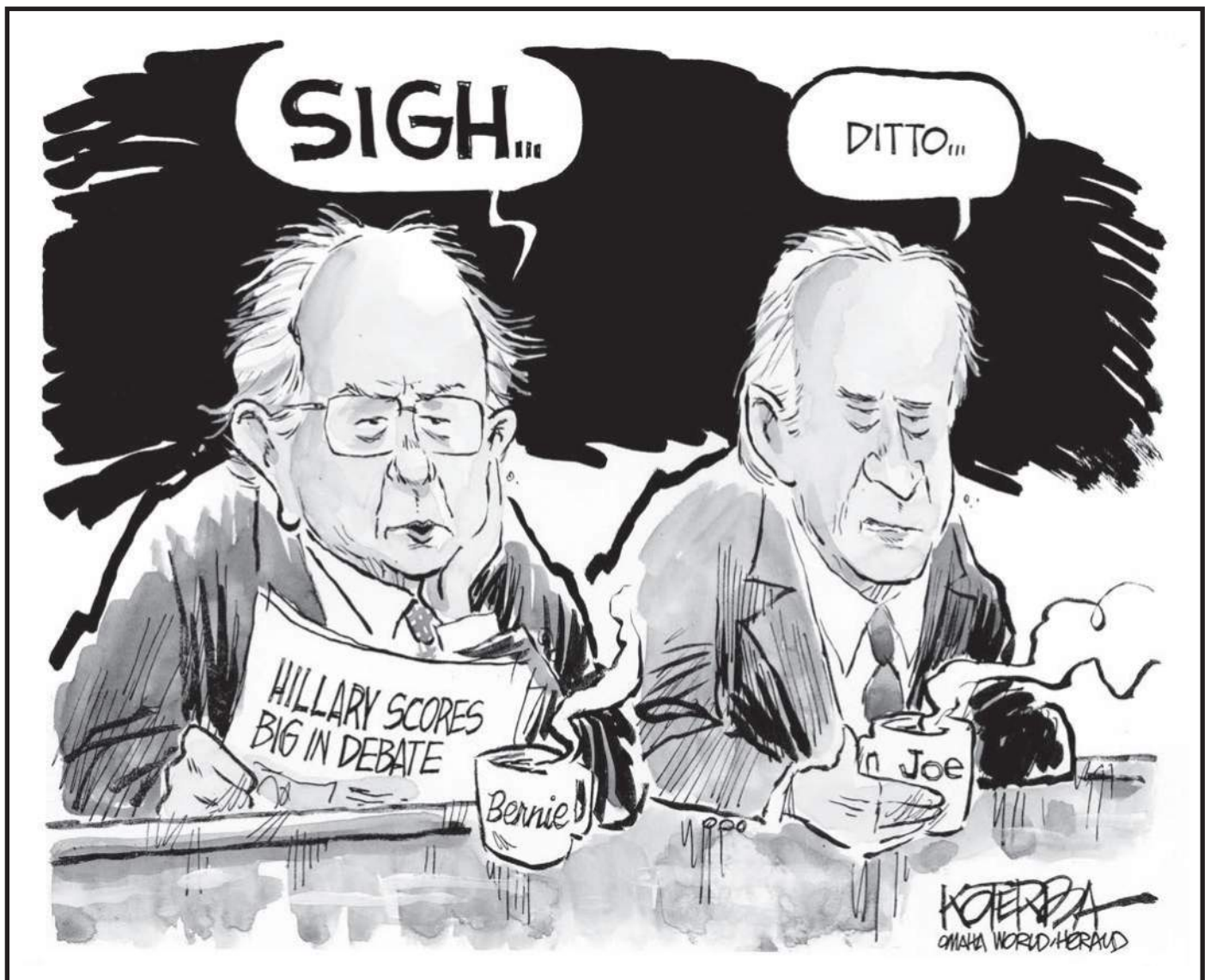
The Liberals hope to address this partly by increasing public investment and relaxing efforts to contain public borrowing. This approach is defensible—with interest rates so low, borrowing is cheap—but Trudeau must move cautiously. A program that scares financial markets might easily push interest rates up. Canadians own houses with dangerously inflated valuations and have borrowed too much. With household debt standing at more than 160 percent of income, the economy is unusually vulnerable to interest-rate surprises.

What about Canada's alliances with the U.S., especially? Trudeau's position on climate change is more enlightened than his predecessor's. He's promised to restore his country's global standing on the issue (though he hasn't said very clearly how). His views on trade policy aren't so congenial, though. The Liberals have hesitated to back the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade pact, recently concluded after years of tortuous negotiations. The new government may also withdraw its support for military operations against Islamic State.

Trudeau's thinking on trade and foreign entanglements echoes the positions of many American Democrats—but isn't guaranteed to restore warm relations with the U.S. government.

A failure to repair that friendship would be a shame, but it's unlikely to be Canadians' most pressing concern. Top on their list is reviving Canada's stuttering economy—and, whether he likes it or not, that's how Canada's ambitious new leader will be judged.

(c)2015 Bloomberg News



Laudato Si'

The voice of authority was what I grew up with. The voice emanated from a position of status and power. Pope Francis' May Encyclical *Laudato Si'* is hardly my normal fare for bedtime reading but with the Islamic Association issuing a declaration of their own on climate change, we boned up on our patristic history and biblical analysis, and dipped into the lagoon of our Christian upbringing.

In China, where the *mienzi* (face) still prevails, and in the Marianas where one stood in society's pecking order, “because I say so” remains the frequent tenor of authoritative voice. Rome's papal resonance echoes around the world to a large audience. This self-defrocked Methodist cleric expected the faithful to drum up Papa Francesco's *Laudato Si'* but all has been quiet on the CK front.

Pope Francis is careful enough to drag the whole understanding and scholarship of the Christian Church in its biological, geological, theological, philosophical, social, political, economic, cultural and personal dimensions to his Encyclical to say that the faithful are responsible for the planet Earth and are destructive in its use and abuse of resources.

With my eldest two in the '80s, I shifted from “because I say so” to what was real in the turbulent years of their puberty. But once in a while, it was necessary to intone the unmistakable voice of authority.

At 23, my son, grandma's spoilt little boy growing up fending for himself between bio-Papa's family and Mama's household in a separated marriage, learned to assert himself, though he has yet to distinguish between self-confidence and self-promotion. He comes off strong on the second.

Tech savvy in China, he prided himself on attending a technology university, countering grandpa's overt desire to have him be a finance major at the university where I taught. Now to a ward on Saipan, I uttered, “Because I say so,” not too long ago. Pope Francis took 75 pages and fancy reasoning to “say so” on behalf of the Vatican.

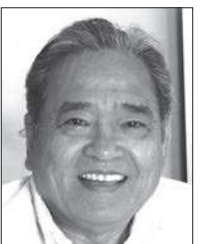
My ward would have made the U.S. East Coast's ethos in the '80s looking after No. 1. A bit on the unconsciously arrogant side, perhaps covering up a deep insecurity about his abilities (IMHO), in the context of Chinese society, he is a well-meaning guy accustomed to doing things in anticipation of someone else's needs, thinking that it is the ethical thing to do without bothering to ask first. Recipients of his goodwill receive his ministrations with gratitude. Often, it comes out as coercive beneficence but the goodwill prevails even when recipients are not inclined to receive the service.

Beijing thinks for the whole country, its diverse and numerous people. Members of the Politburo have not been hesitant to say: “Because we say so,” and President Xi Jinping is cleaning the CPC stables of abusive powers and corrupt practices.

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



Pope Francis elicited 60 comments on *Laudato Si'* from various sources. John Cobb edited a book of the collection. Francis' “because I say so” no longer came from a formal authoritative voice as it came from an openness to the authentic struggle of human definition in the course of planetary evolution.

I experienced China and USCIS operate on the principle that one is presumed dishonest until proven otherwise. With USCIS Saipan, this is understandable. A huge number of non-bona fide marriages presented in the past created a certain stolid “poker face” among officials. Besides, until Chiang Kai-Shek fled to Taiwan, the “devious” Chinese were legally excluded from mainstream U.S. of A. although they built the western rails.

My ward simply assumed the right to drive the office car whenever he wanted to. He had an assigned car in China and he liked the fact that not only could he drive a new vehicle on Saipan, he can bask in the glitter of those preferred by the rich and famous in Liaoning. On Saipan, tourists favor Mustangs and Camaros (though one mysteriously went up in flames at Banzai Cliff recently).

My ward wanted to drive the office car at night. Statistics on Saipan night driving is not comforting. He was not on a critical errand; he wanted to escort his lassie home. She is a dedicated Christian of the conservative strain who sees him as a prospective convert, IMHO. It is most unlikely that a quick tumble on the hay is on her agenda but I left him to figure that one out.

I told him he could not drive. He asked, “Why?” I said, “Because I say so!” At 70 to a 23-year-old who loves to banter and reason why, I did not have the inclination to explain. I was resolute. The car keys stayed on the hook behind the door. I told him to call a taxi. He did.

Pope Francis is on the authentic track, carefully explaining why a decision is arrived at and how it is going to be played out. He says so firmly ala St. Francis: *Laudato Si'*.

At 70, to “say so” is not being rude; it is necessary. Clarity of rationale is not the issue; getting definite about what will be done, is. A deed moves out of discussion into decision. Francis did. My son did, also. So did I.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Paths

You might think that I squander my time sitting in a beach chair, not thinking about anything at all, and just eating cheeseburgers all day long. But that's not entirely true. Sometimes I eat doughnuts instead.

And on very rare occasions, I do think about something. So here's a thought: path dependence.

"Path dependence" sure sounds like a boring term, but it's really a cool idea that's just a victim of bad labeling. Behind that boring wrapper is an explanation for why things often insist on being the way they are and aren't easy to improve.

Here's a favorite example: keyboards.

The conventional layout for keyboards is called QWERTY, and it so named, of course, for the first keys on the top row of letters. It's a lousy design. It's hard to learn, and even once you learn it, the most commonly-used keys aren't usually directly under the fingers.

So why does QWERTY persist?

Path dependence.

Before people were typing at computers, they were typing on typewriters. The first designs were hitting commercial potential in the 1870's, and during these early days, the QWERTY arrangement hit the scene. The details behind the development are probably lost in the mists of time, but were probably rooted in the mechanical constraints of the devices or, perhaps, factors involved in helping telegraph operators make the transition to the new-fangled typing machines.

In any event, having been the solution that worked at the time, QWERTY was launched successfully. The layout became the standard, that standard has had about 140 years to propagate, and, well, here we are. The reasons for the design are gone, but the design itself remains. Trying to convince everyone to embrace another de-

sign would be like changing the tire on a rolling car.

Welcome to path dependence. The situation can rear its head in just about any realm I can think of. For example, we see path dependence, to a greater or lesser extent, in the design of our bodies, the engineering of aircraft, the use of languages, the evolution of software, the structure of economies, and so on.

Although the QWERTY example might make us laugh at such a clunky relic of the olden days, I don't know if our modern minds are any less path dependent for more contemporary inventions. When it comes to products, propagation of the design is surely one factor in path dependence. In the olden days those heavy, steel typewriters and their keyboards had to be stamped out one-by-one, then lugged aboard carts, trains, and ships to hit the market. QWERTY's plod through history must have been just that: a plod, at least through the early decades.

These days, by contrast, a piece of software can propagate around the world in a matter of seconds. Maybe that's not a deep path, but it's sure a wide one.

In the business world, path dependence is often lurking in the shadows. If you arrive at a new job, for example, and want to help the company develop its sales, you'll usually learn a lot by looking at the path it took to get where it is. This approach will often reveal constraints, or opportunities, that weren't visible with a superficial glance.

It's not all that common of an approach, though. Managers often relish sitting in judgment of past decisions, but they often overlook the context in which those decisions were made. It's a pretty rare

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.
His column runs every Friday.



person who can invert that process and suspend judgment about a decision while learning about the context that surrounded it.

Heeding the past doesn't mean being tied to it; to the contrary, the best way to break into a new direction is to understand how and why the old direction evolved. So maybe "path dependence" is too strong of a term. "Path influence" is probably more accurate in many cases.

One of my friends likes to observe that what you'll be doing in 10 years is largely a function of what you're doing right now, and that what you're doing right now is largely a function of what you were doing 10 years ago. Whether that's a liberating notion, or a constraining one, depends on how you want to look at it, I suppose.

As for me, I suppose that's all the thinking I'm willing to do today. It's time to put away this keyboard. So goodbye, QWERTY. Hello, beach chair.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Ban all gifts to govt employees and officials

Rep. Leepan's proposed bill on gifts for government officials and employees of the CNMI government appears to be ill-advised and appalling to most. Receiving unsolicited gifts of any kind by public officers or employees violates ethical norms, and perpetuating favors in return for gifts given seems to be the unintended consequences of the suggestion of the lawmaker's idea. Solving an ethical issue by increasing the threshold of the gift's value does not strengthen public policy. The solution is to ban entirely any and all unsolicited gifts given to any public officer or employee of the CNMI government.

Would the esteemed lawmaker find it useful and practical to consider public policy banning all unsolicited gift to public officer or employee in the CNMI government? In view of this, I propose the introduction of a bill that would effectuate the public policy as follows:

Section 1: A public officer or employee of the CNMI government shall not solicit or accept a gift or loan of money, goods, services, or other thing regardless of value for the benefit of a person or organization, other than the CNMI government, which tends to influence the manner in which the public officer or employee or another public officer or employee performs official duties.

Section 2: A public officer or employee of the CNMI government shall not engage in a business transaction in which the public officer or employee may profit from his or her official position or authority or benefit financially from confidential information.

Section 3: A public officer or employee of the CNMI government shall use personnel resources, property, and funds under the public officer's or employee's official care and control judiciously and solely in accordance with prescribed constitutional, statutory, and regulatory mandates and procedures, and not for personal gain or benefit.

The lawmaker's proposed bill is a mistake. He should have also considered the alternative desire of stakeholders outside of the CNMI government establishment. Banning unsolicited gifts altogether is the better public policy. A public officer or employee of the CNMI who solicits gift in return for favors in performing official duties is guilty of violating ethical standards and subject to the strict rules of adverse action.

Francisco R. Agulto

Kannat Tabla, Saipan

Vagueness concept

You get a sense of blind confidence that things are all right. Yet there's that weird sense of nagging uneasiness that something's awfully gone wrong somewhere. The Year 2015 is bad all around: shuttering of communication system and two typhoons! Anything else?

Atop the disasters and accompanying mess, our government seem paralyzed, incapable of governing except to avert crises as asserted recently by the lieutenant governor in what he called "veiled" concerns. The governor did his garrulous pompous remarks on the budget pissing all over legislators. Folks below imperial Capital Hill are totally dispirited, trying to figure out heads or tails, in the deepening hardship on all fronts.

Stagnancy: There are two significant features in the appalling and fatal mystery that ruins life in the entire archipelago: 1.) Economic stagnancy, therefore salaries remain the same for over 14 years now. 2.) We still had to fork out beyond family purses to pay for increases in health premiums and deductibles, basic commodities, real estate and auto loans and accompanying insurance, etc.

This is the juncture where we realistically collide with hardship, stormed up by the uncertainty of a highly depressed economy. Yes you have a job that pays the same for nearly 15 years now. Nothing has improved and about the only thing that has helped us carry the day is the powerful culture of communal sharing. We share everything from food stamps to tummy and mental cramps!

Wrong book: The boys were busy paging through their "solutions driven" book, only to find out it's the wrong book. What's before them is a cookbook, e.g., how to make bone soup and other heavy-duty food that makes visiting our medicine cabinet mandatory. Otherwise, you'd pop a brain in what's known as "stroke."

Perhaps the use of the wrong book is exactly what has gone wrong in paradise today. Or is it more like the obvious lack of a plan to glimpse when nothing else works?

It's all ad hoc attempts or plan BY, not plan FOR eventualities. This amidst admission that the two disasters mean we start all over from "A." Hopelessly it's a rudderless boat so uncomfortably painful to even brave explaining. It breeds nothing but uncertainty!

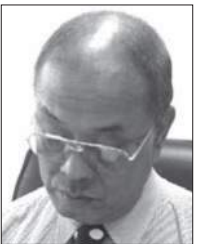
Mixed messages: I was completely baffled by the lieutenant governor's raw assertion of "veiled issues" the elected elite has ignored to address responsibly. Well, he unveiled what he subsequently returned to veil once more. Then came back declaring the first unveiling was the real stuff, you know, 51 percent of our people are below federal poverty income level. He appointed an instant soba commission to probe and resolve the mounting mess. Wow!

People on food stamps or students on breakfast and lunch programs paid for by federal funds are situational necessities prompted by woefully poor economic conditions here under your charge, sir! In other words, it didn't spin out of thin air but is tethered to rock solid origin. If economic depression has inched up a little, maybe, and just maybe, sir, some of our people would move concurrently off the food stamps roster. But with economic stagnancy—where

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



nothing works—therefore salaries remain the same for 14 years, what did you expect?

Courage: Glad, though, that he had the courage to remind us to quit gaming the system in order to avoid resolving longstanding problems. You're there now and I challenge you to inflict orderly change to fulfill fiduciary responsibility. No more excuses. You're there now, let's see you do it. You weren't elected to willfully confuse your speech like some high school intramural contest where errors are forgiven. You're dealing with real life situations!

Leadership: Perhaps he's wary the flock is lost in a dense jungle or forest. And so he's climbed a tree to see his way forward. Descending and on the ground he declared, "Wrong direction. Sorry, this way please!" It's known as "leadership." I'm sure he knows he can't get anywhere without a fully considered plan. There's none now for anyone to glimpse at in deeply troubled waters.

The convenience of political loyalty gift-wrapped in nasty coalescence and negligence has run dangerously thin and deep. Torres doesn't have the room to massage the fossilized ego of the governor's staff whose focus is superficial self-importance. The slugfest has begun and I'm keeping score whose ego is poked and deflated first among the governor's top guns.

Cost of Programs: How much of the projected FY 2016 budget of \$145 million could be collected? Funding PSS and CHC over \$86 million would simply drain what's left when funds for salaries and wages are deducted. The latter makes up about 80 percent of the budget. CHC and PSS would need the cumulative figure to survive the fiscal year if there's anything left.

Then the guys and gals must settle to learning a new skill: dancing in the rain to avoid the creeping fiscal storm. Trust me, everybody's going to get hit and hit hard when the fiscal crisis spirals completely out of control!


Would the administration be sufficiently bold to institute reduction in force? Two issues instantly pop-up if this measure is undertaken. They include: Are there jobs in private industries for people you would be releasing from government? Is the other sector sufficiently healthy to hire more drone employees? It's one tough displacement! I hate to see this day but it's looming into one nasty dark clouds ahead!

Learned NOT! We've gone through storms since time immemorial, always declaring at the end of each disaster that we've learned our lessons in the lack of preparation. Nah! We thought we did but failed royally, time and again! Still waterless after every storm and we parrot what we said earlier, "we've learned..." NOT! A' saina!

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Mostly cloudy and hazy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
West winds
5 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼77°


SATURDAY



Mostly cloudy and hazy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
West winds
5 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼77°


SUNDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°


MONDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°

TUESDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image


PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Newly formed Tropical Depression 26W is centered 90 miles east of Minami Tori Shima at 24N155E moving northwest at 15 mph with maximum sustained winds of 30 mph. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms northeast of the Marianas are in patchy areas north of 18N from 148E to 157E. For more information on 26W, see bulletins issued by Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and by National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. Typhoon Champi (25W) is centered 655 miles north-northwest of Saipan near 24N142E moving northeast at 7 mph with maximum sustained winds of 115 mph. Heavy rain and a few thunderstorms are within 100 miles of the center while scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are farther out up to 300 miles from the center. For more information on Typhoon Champi, see bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. Converging southwest winds are generating widely scattered showers and a few thunderstorms northeast of Yap between 8N and 16N from 137E to 142E and north of Chuuk and Pohnpei between 10N and 18N from 150E to 160E. A disturbance is centered southwest of Majuro near 3N169E with a surface trough northward across the Marshall Islands. Scattered showers are mainly between 7N and 13N from 167E to 174E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲86	▼77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼80
Yap	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼78
Chuuk	Sunny	▲86	▼78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼79

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼57
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲67	▼44
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲86	▼76
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼74
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲60	▼50
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼60
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼74
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼47
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼74
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲76	▼52
Osaka	Sunny	▲77	▼58
Paris	Cloudy	▲57	▼47
Pusan	Sunny	▲72	▼53
Rome	Sunny	▲69	▼50
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲64	▼41
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲74	▼57
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼56
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	▲69	▼60
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼55



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:43 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
10:31 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
5:23 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
11:39 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:10 AM	5:52 PM
Saturday	6:11 AM	5:52 PM
Sunday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Monday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Tuesday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	2:25 PM	1:34 AM
Saturday	3:14 PM	2:32 AM
Sunday	4:04 PM	3:32 AM
Monday	4:54 PM	4:33 AM
Tuesday	5:45 PM	5:34 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily			UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily		
UA5039	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota			UA5039	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7		
UA5038	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6			UA5038	12:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota		
UA5078	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily			UA5077	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily		
UA5072	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily			UA5079	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA5039	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA5038	12:15pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA5039	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA5038	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6		
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)						PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT			DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	twice weekly			DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily		
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily			DL288	8:55pm	1:30am+1	twice weekly		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1			7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6		
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7		
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7			OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7		
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5			OZ625	8:20pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7								
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN			DL276/288	9:20am	1:30am+1	twice weekly via NRT		
OZ626/701	3:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			UA190/5079	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	twice weekly via NRT			UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/5038	10:25pm	1:50pm+1	1, via GUM-Rota		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5039/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5079	10:25pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5039/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM		
						UA184/5038	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota		
						UA184/5077	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM		
						UA184/5079	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ626/721	3:20am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM		
UA5039/179	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM			UA180/5038	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota		
UA5038/179	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM			UA180/5077	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
						UA180/5079	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.								
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
			8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM							

Testimonial of an NMTI graduate

By **ELEANOR MASGA TUDELA-TENORIO**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Editor's Note: The following is the personal testimony and experience of the writer on behalf of her colleagues who were conferred their certificates at the Northern Marianas Trades Institute graduation held Sept. 28, 2015, at the Sandcastle, Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Two years ago I realized that one thing I wanted the most was to start a career in the hotel industry. So one

day, I applied at a local hotel. I went through the interview process and a few days later I received a letter in the mail stating that, "We regret to inform you that your education and experience does not relate to the job that you are applying for."

I felt stuck, but I wanted to prove that I could do it if I had the proper training, but I didn't know what to do until I heard about NMTI's program through the *John Gonzales LIVE* talk show, hosting the late Mr. Anthony Pellegrino, the founder of NMTI, and Mr. Vic Cepeda, the institute's administrator at the

time. I immediately saw the opportunity that I can pursue my education and training at NMTI and be able to qualify for employment in the hotel industry.

I felt that we are fortunate and blessed to have NMTI in our community with its goals and mission, to educate, train, and employ CNMI residents in the job market to be self-sufficient in their lives. Many of us have been through so many struggles to get this far. Twenty-nine years have passed for me, with all the ups and downs, but I am so happy that I finally did it!

As graduates of NMTI, we have accomplished this opportunity of a lifetime by successfully completing our

training and certification and investing in ourselves and our community. With this certification and accomplishment, we have enhanced our lives and are improving our living standards and strengthening our business community for the future.

I support NMTI's vision and encourage those CNMI residents who cannot easily pursue a college education to instead explore the careers and on the job training to be productive citizens of our CNMI.

Unfortunately, NMTI is one of the three institutes that receives minimal CW education funding by the CNMI government, even though it is the only true institute that focuses solely on educating and training our local residents to fill private sector jobs.

Through my experiences, I believe NMTI is the most

deserving institute to receive adequate funding. I encourage our CNMI leaders to support NMTI 100 percent to train and employ the people of the CNMI who need it most.

I invite everyone in this community to explore what this program offers and not be afraid to pursue a career in the trades because our community needs us.

Always remember to be positive, be patient, never give up, and be happy. You all have the potential to succeed if you really want to make a difference in your life and the lives of the people who mean the most to you.


NMTI has made my passion a reality and I say this with pride that I am now certified and an employee at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, our premiere 5-star hotel, as a guest services officer, and

my goal is to grow and climb high in this career and reap the benefits of our growing hospitality industry.

I sincerely thank the NMTI faculty and staff, leaders, associates, and all agencies for their dedication and collaboration to make the CNMI workforce a continued success.

Congratulations, job well done! NMTI, climb!

Eleanor Masga Tudela-Tenorio is a Hospitality Industry graduate of the Northern Marianas Trades Institute. The students went through 180 classroom hours and 240 hours internship for the hotel and restaurant operations program and 84 classroom hours and 240 hours internship for the culinary arts program. Two students each from both programs were chosen to give remarks about their experiences during their course and internship.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE
SERVICE AND REPAIRS OF GENERATORS AT THE
SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND PORT OF SAIPAN
CPA-RFP-003-16
AMENDED

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (The "CPA") is accepting sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals (the "RFP"), and other contract provisions, for proposals from qualified individuals, firms, companies and/or corporations to provide Generator Preventive Maintenance Service and Repairs at the Saipan International Airport and Port of Saipan.

This RFP is issued pursuant to Chapter 40-50, Procurement Rules and Regulations of Title 40 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (the "NMIAC"). Title 40, including chapter 40-50-225, Request for Proposals, is applicable to the process followed by the RFP.

The successful proposer will be awarded 2 years to perform the services with option to renew for an additional 2 years at the sole discretion of the CPA.

The proposal package will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning September 18, 2015.

The proposal package includes the Scope of Work and other considerations upon payment of One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) to be paid at the CPA Accounting Office. Payment shall be in cashiers' check or cash only. All responses to this RFP shall take into account any costs that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project. Proposers shall take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project. Proposals must be submitted no later than **4:00 P.M., October 23, 2015** to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.


The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would not be in CPA's best interest.

CPA assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of proposer's preparation of the proposal or supply under the contract. This RFP does not commit the CPA to award a contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure a contract for services.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Proposals received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ **MARYANN Q. LIZAMA**
Executive Director



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport
P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950-1055
Tel.: (670) 236-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
OPERATION OF CUSTOMER ACTIVITY OR ACTIVITIES
AT THE COMMUTER TERMINAL
SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
CPA-RFP-004-16 OCTOBER 1, 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (THE "AUTHORITY") IS ACCEPTING SEALED PROPOSALS, SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (THE "RFP") AND OTHER CONTRACT PROVISIONS, FOR AWARDED A LEASE (THE "LEASE CONTRACT") FOR THE OPERATION OF CUSTOMER ACTIVITIES, NOT INCLUDING FLIGHT OR AIRFIELD OPERATIONS, AT THE COMMUTER TERMINAL LOCATED ON THE GROUNDS OF THE SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON SAIPAN, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. THIS RFP IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 40-50, PROCUREMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS OF TITLE 40 OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (THE "NMIAC"), TITLE 40, INCLUDING CHAPTER 40-50-225, REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS, IS APPLICABLE TO THE PROCESS FOLLOWED BY THIS RFP.


THE AUTHORITY IS SOLICITING PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED FIRMS AND INDIVIDUALS TO OPERATE A COMMERCIAL "CUSTOMER ACTIVITY" AT THE SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT'S COMMUTER TERMINAL. SUCH "CUSTOMER ACTIVITY" MAY BE A FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICE OPERATION, A RETAIL SALES STORE OR ANOTHER COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY FOR CUSTOMERS VISITING AND/OR TRANSITING THE COMMUTER TERMINAL. INTERESTED FIRMS AND INDIVIDUALS ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR ANY TYPE OF SERVICES THAT WILL BE OFFERED TO THE TRAVELING PUBLIC.

PROPOSAL PACKAGES MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LOCATED AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE AUTHORITY, DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS. A FEE OF \$50.00 SHALL BE CHARGED FOR A COPY OF THE PROPOSAL PACKAGE. CHECKS MAY BE PAYABLE TO THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY.

ALL PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE AUTHORITY AT ITS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, LOCATED AT THE SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, NO LATER THAN 4:30 P.M. ON NOVEMBER 23, 2015 IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED.

INQUIRIES REGARDING THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS MAY BE ADDRESSED TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN, MP 96950 OR SENT MY EMAIL OR FACSIMILE.

ISSUED THIS 1ST DAY OF OCTOBER, 2015.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MARYANN Q. LIZAMA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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Employer: _____ Length of Employment: _____ Phone: _____
Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____
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Best Time To Call Best Number To Call
Mailing Address: Street/Box _____ Village _____ Zip Code _____



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BIKE FOR LIFE SPONSOR

Eli Buenaventura from Calvo's Insurance, left, presents a \$2,000 donation as a major sponsor of the upcoming PIC 50KM Bike For Life, which will be held on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015. Race registration is ongoing at the PIC Saipan. Race numbers can be picked up at 5:30am on Saturday. The 50KM Bike For Life race starts at 6am.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations to the winner of a trip for 4 to San Francisco, Los Angeles or San Diego!

Winners from June 19 to August 21, 2015

Round trip tickets for 4 to San Francisco, Los Angeles or San Diego plus four nights' hotel

Name	Smiles Card Number (last 5 digits)
Guerrero, Evelyn	20807
De Leon Guerrero, Carmen	66105

See participating Saipan Mobil service stations for details.

All federal and local laws apply. By participating, participants agree to be bound by the Official Rules which can be examined at any participating Mobil service station.

The winner will be required to present valid proof of identity and to sign and return an Affidavit of Eligibility and Liability Release upon receipt of prize. Failure to comply will result in forfeiture of prize. Except where prohibited, acceptance of prize constitutes winner's consent to the use of his or her name, photograph, likeness, voice and or biographical information for advertising and promotional purposes without additional compensation. All prize claims are subject to verification before any prize will be awarded.

All listed winners will be responsible to register their prizes through the Smiles Customer Service Hotline during hours of operation on or before September 11, 2015 or their prizes will be forfeited.

Call toll-free hotline at 1-866-486-7751 Monday - Friday from 10am to 7pm for more details.

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Is your marriage worth it?

We have the power to build a healthy marriage by offering our spouse encouragement rather than criticism. This form of positive communication involves some basic habits: Being intentionally gentle, listening intently, and validating our spouse. Through encouragement, we can bring about change, growth and fulfillment of potential. We awaken the feeling, "Someone believes in me!" You may think of encouragement as praise and reinforcement, but it's more than that. Praise is limited; it's a verbal reward. Praise emphasizes competition, has to be earned and is often given for being the best. Encouragement is given freely. It can involve noticing something in a person that others take for granted or affirming something that others notice but never think of mentioning. Encouraging your spouse through positive communication can change his or her entire approach to life. A Marriage Encounter Weekend helps couples simply through better communication.

Marriage Encounter starts with a weekend at a hotel, away from everyday distractions, tensions and commitments including work, children, relatives, sports and TV/ multi-media. The M.E. Weekend is a constructive and personal experience offering married couples an opportunity to learn a technique of loving communication that they can use for the rest of their lives. It's time to share their feelings, hopes and dreams with each other.

The next CNMI M.E. Weekend is on Nov. 20-22, 2015 at the Kanoa Resort Saipan in Susupe. The cost is \$100 per couple and includes two nights' accommodation, five meals, and all materials. Space is limited to 25 couples. Submit an application form and payment (checks payable to Worldwide Marriage Encounter) to Kanae Quinn at cnmime@gmail.com or sign up online at <http://goo.gl/forms/Ftrnk2p8XS>. (PR)

OIA backs flexibility in use of Bikini resettlement funds

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia’aina has sent a letter to U.S. Senate and House congressional leadership proposing draft legislation allowing the people of Bikini to use existing resettlement and relocation funds to relocate their communities outside of the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Current federal law restricts resettlement funds for use within the Marshall Islands.

“This is an appropriate course of action for the United States to take regarding the welfare and livelihood of the Bikinian people, given the deteriorating conditions on Kili and Ejit Islands in the Marshall Islands with crowding, diminishing resources, and increased frequency of flooding due to king tides on their islands,” said Kia’aina.

Kia’ana visited the Marshall Islands last March when Bikinian leaders raised the need for changes in the federal law. Subsequently, the Kili/Bikini/Ejit Local Government Council passed a resolution on Aug. 3, 2015, asking Congress to pass legislation allowing for the people of Bikini to relocate and resettle within or outside the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

In 1982, Congress, through Public Law 97-257, provided the people of Bikini a relocation and resettlement trust fund for use primarily on Kili Island and Ejit Island (Majuro Atoll) after they were relocated from their original homeland of Bikini Atoll for U.S. nuclear weapons testing. In addition to cramped living quarters and a lack of suitable sustainable resources, the people of Bikini have been experiencing more frequent storms and king tides, resulting in salt water inundation and the destruction of crops at Kili and Ejit. These developments have

raised deep concerns about public health and safety.

Under current federal law, the people of Bikini are entitled to live, work, and study in the United States as nonimmigrants without visas, pursuant to the Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Republic of the Marshall Islands without restriction on duration of stay.

The proposed legislation would allow the people of Bikini to use their available U.S. funds to resettle outside of the Marshall Islands—in the United States or elsewhere—should they decide to relocate. It would also provide the people of Bikini better options and the necessary resources for habitable and sustainable living to improve their quality of life and to plan for their future. *(OIA)*

Farmers to receive documentation of USDA services

U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency state executive director Diane L. Ley reminds agricultural producers that FSA provides a receipt to customers who request or receive assistance or information on FSA programs.

“If you visit our office, you’ll receive documentation of services requested and provided,” said Ley. “It’s part of our mission to provide enhanced customer service for producers. From December through June, FSA issued more than 327,000 electronic receipts.”

The 2014 Farm Bill requires a receipt to be issued for any agricultural program assistance requested from FSA, the Natural Resources Conservation Service,

and Rural Development. Receipts include the date, summary of the visit and any agricultural information, program and/or loan assistance provided to an individual or entity.

In some cases, a form or document—such as a completed and signed program enrollment form—serve as the customer receipt instead of a printed or electronic receipt. A service is any information, program or loan assistance provided whether through a visit, email, fax or letter.

This announcement was made possible through the 2014 Farm Bill. The Farm Bill builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past six years, while achieving meaningful

reform and billions of dollars in savings for the taxpayer. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit www.usda.gov/farmbill. To learn more about FSA, visit www.fsa.usda.gov or to find your local USDA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>. *(FSA)*

» **Local offices issue receipts for services provided**

THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222 CHRB
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950-5222

TO: MARIA AYUYU, Administratrix of the Estate of Lorenzo Aldan Ayuyu, Deceased:

The Estate of Lorenzo Aldan Ayuyu is in default of a Promissory Note dated February 2, 2006, secured by a Real Estate Mortgage of the same date, executed and delivered by Lorenzo Aldan Ayuyu to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

(a) Description of the real property covered by Mortgage:

Lot no. 011 G 946, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 917 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 011 G 18 dated December 13, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File no. 93-4286, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Date and amount of Promissory Note and Mortgage: February 2, 2006; \$28,000.00

(c) Amount due for principal: \$963.36 as of April 1, 2015

(d) Amount due for interest: \$7,212.02 as of April 1, 2015

(e) Daily accruing interest: \$4.13

(f) Late charges: -0-

If the principal, interest, and late charges, \$8,175.38 as of April 1, 2015, plus accruing interest, together with reasonable attorney's fees in the amount of \$500.00, are not paid within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this notice, the Estate of Lorenzo Aldan Ayuyu will be in default, and Court proceedings will be commenced against the Estate to foreclose upon the said Mortgage because of the default.

Unless you, within thirty (30) days after receipt of this letter dispute the validity of the claim, or any portion thereof, we will assume that it is valid. If you notify us in writing within thirty (30) day period that the claim, or any portion thereof, is disputed, we will obtain information on the debt and mail you a copy thereof. Upon your written request within this thirty (30)-day period, we will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the creditor indicated above.

This letter is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Very truly yours,
/s/ Michael A. White, ESQ.
Attorney at Law

I Estate of Lorenzo Aldan Ayuyu ti ha komple i kontratan debirita (Promissory Note) ni ma fitma gi Febreru 2, 2006, ni afabobot i Real Estate Mortgage ma aseguro i tano yan guma ni ma empena gi mismo dia, ma fitma yan ma entrega i empena (Mortgage) guato gi Northern Mariana Housing Corporation.

(a) I deskripsion tano ni ma empena (mortgaged):

Sito numiro 011 G 946, ni gaigi gi Kagman III, Saipan Note Marianas, ni ha konsiste un aria 971 kuadrao metro, mas pat menus, ni anak gi Division Tano yan Mididan Tano ofisialat Cadastral Plat numiro 011 G 18 gi Disiembre 3, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File numiro 93-4286, guini I deskripsion ni ma incorporate guini ginen I infotmasion

(b) I kantida yan i fechan este Febreru 2, 2006; \$28,000.00

(c) Kantida un debi para principat: \$963.36 asta ki Abril 1, 2015

(d) Kantida un debi para interes: \$7,212 asta ki Abril 1, 2015

(e) Interest kada dia: \$4.13

(f) Apas pot atrasao (late charges): -0-

Yangin ti un apasi i kantida na principat, interes, yan apas pot atrasao (late charges) \$8,175.38 asta ki Abril 1, 2015 yan interes, yan i resanable na apas abugado pot \$500.00 gi halom trenta (30) dias despues di i fecha ni un resibe esta na notisia. I Estate of Lorenzo Aldan Ayuyu ma konsidera komo ti ma komple i kontrata (default), ya siempre u-matutuhun konti i Estate a kausan kotti ni para uma kondena ya uma bendi i propriadat tano ni empena guato gi Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

Solo yangin halom trenta (30) dias despues de un resibe esta na kata yan un kontra minagahet-na pot i apudera sino komo i pattida, siempre bai in hongge an asientadu a apudera. Pago yangin un kattayi ham gi halom este i trenta (30) dias siklo man infotoma hao pot i apudera sino komo i pattida para un kontra, pues bai in henta infotmasion pot i dibi-mu despues un ma kattayi i kopia pot este na de-urta. Anai in resibe i katta-mu gi halom trenta (30) dias siklo, bai in na'i hao i ma'an yan address i akredit komo ti parehu na akredit ma indika guini huku.

Este na katta para u ma na 'kesina ma rikohi i dibi-mu. Maseha hafa na infotmasion ni in resibe pot este na apudera –siña bai in usa para bai in ke-chagi mu rekohi para este i debi-mu.

Su Seguro Servidor,
/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ.
Attorney at Law



Looking for an experienced coordinator:

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit organization with over 155 business members and is the largest private business organization in the CNMI.

Hours: Mon-Friday, full time from 8:00 to 5:00 plus evening and weekend hours during events.

Unconditional Job Requirements:

- 2-3 years of experience in a top-level, high-pressure, deadline-oriented executive environment as an administrative assistant
- Intermediate to advanced MS Office, calendaring, written and verbal communications, event planning
- Critical thinker, well organized, detail oriented
- Self motivated, efficient, productive, prompt, and responsible
- Must have own transportation

Salary: \$8 to \$12 hourly, medical insurance.

Please submit resume with cover letter and references in person to Chamber office during weekday hours (8am to noon, 1pm to 5pm). Marianas Business Plaza, 3rd floor, front of building.



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Marianas Pacific Distributors is looking for highly motivated and experienced individuals to work as

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MarPac Dist., Inc Offers competitive salaries commensurate with qualifications and experience.

PLEASE SEND RESUME AND PICTURES TO:

Casting4Saipan@Gmail.com

Deadline of submission is on October 25, 2015.

NO TELEPHONE CALLS PLEASE.

As condition of Employment, MARPAC requires proof of identity and eligibility to work in the CNMI.

MARPAC Dist., Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Nation

Bookended by tragedy, Biden's storied career nears the end

WASHINGTON (AP)—Joe Biden's storied political career will come to an end much the way it started nearly half a century ago: shaped by crushing personal tragedy that shook his deep-seated confidence in his own ability to lead.

In deciding not to run for president, Biden turned away from months of intensive preparations and countless hours that had put him on the verge of a third presidential campaign, with almost everything ready to go except the candidate himself.

"Unfortunately, I believe we're out of time—the time necessary to mount a winning campaign," Biden said,

flanked by his wife and President Barack Obama in an extraordinary appearance in the Rose Garden.

Biden's world ground to a halt in May when his son died of brain cancer. For the vice president, 46-year-old Beau Biden's death ended any possibility that the popular former Delaware attorney general would carry on his father's legacy, perhaps with a presidential campaign of his own.

Even months later, when Biden began anew to seriously consider running, he steadfastly refused to be rushed, and said



Biden

the decision hinged on whether he and his family had the emotional mettle to campaign while still roiled by grief.

In fact, Biden had predicted his denouement in September, when he said he might not be ready to make a decision before the realities of the campaign calendar would make the decision for him. "If that's it, that's it," he said.

Biden, who will turn 73 next month, will probably never again appear on a ballot. So his decision to forego another run for the White House sets him

on a glide path toward the end of his long turn on the national political stage, which began in 1972 and will culminate when the Obama administration ends in early 2017.

Although Biden hasn't said exactly what he'll do after leaving the White House, he has told friends he has no plans to retire in a traditional sense. He's previously discussed starting a foundation, launching an institute at the University of Delaware or becoming a special envoy if called upon by future administrations, said several friends and aides, who requested anonymity to disclose private conversations.

Obama says US will tackle prescription drug abuse

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP)—Traveling to a region in the throes of a drug abuse crisis, President Barack Obama promised Wednesday to use his bully pulpit and federal programs to try to combat the "epidemic" of heroin use and prescription painkiller abuse that is upending communities across the country.

"This crisis is taking lives; it's destroying families and shattering communities all across the country," Obama said at a panel discussion on opioid drug abuse. "That's the thing about substance abuse; it doesn't discriminate. It touches everybody."

On stage at a crowded community center, Obama heard from advocates, health care workers, law enforcement officials and policy makers about the depth of a problem that has

long simmered at the state level but just recently risen to the national political stage.

Charleston Police Chief Brent Webster said his officers deal with a "community of zombies walking around" in need of treatment. A father of five daughters described what it was like to find one of them had overdosed, a needle hanging from her arm.

Obama said the stories reminded him of his teenage daughters and his own rebellious teen years.

"They're wonderful girls, but they're teenagers. They do some ... things," he said. "And I remember me being a teenager. I've written about this. I did some ... stuff. And I've been very honest about it. And so what I think about is 'there but for the grace of God,' and that's what we all have to remember."

Teen recounts deadly beating inside secretive church

NEW HARTFORD, N.Y. (AP)—Called to a meeting in the sanctuary of their church, teenage brothers Christopher and Lucas Leonard were told to stand and answer for what they had done.

When the answers didn't come, the beatings began.

Christopher Leonard, 17, said he was punched in the stomach by a fellow church member. Then his parents, his half sister and other congregants delivered a beating that racked his whole body, until he was taken to another room with earplugs and earmuffs to keep him from hearing what was going on around him, he said.



"It hurt," he said, "everywhere." When he was finally brought back to the sanctuary, he saw his 19-year-old brother collapse on the floor, moaning—and, then,

not breathing.

His voice barely audible in court, Christopher Leonard gave his first public account Wednesday of the violence last week that sent him to the hospital and killed his brother. Six people have been arrested, including the brothers' parents and half sister.

Testifying at a hearing for the half sister, Christopher didn't explain what the brothers were being punished for, and the judge stopped him from disclosing what questions they were asked.

Outside court, authorities have said the beating erupted during "spiritual counseling" over Lucas' desire to leave Word of Life Christian Church, a small, secretive and highly regimented congregation in upstate New York.

Are You

(A) Not attending any school

(B) Not younger than 16 or older than age 24 and

(C) Meet one or more of the following:

1. A school dropout
2. A youth who is within the age of compulsory school attendance, but has not attended school for at least the most recent complete school year calendar quarter.
School year calendar is based on how the local school district defines its school year quarters.
3. A recipient of a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent who is a low-income individual and is either basic skills deficient or an English language learner
4. An individual who is subject to the juvenile or adult justice system
5. A homeless individual, a runaway, an individual who is in foster care or has aged out of the foster care system, a child eligible for assistance under Section 477 of the Social Security Act, or an individual who is an out-of-home placement
6. An individual who is pregnant or parenting
7. An individual with a disability
8. A low-income individual who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment

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WIOA

SUPPORTING THE EDUCATIONAL AND CAREER SUCCESS OF OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH (OSY)

This ad is paid for by the USDOL Employment and Training Administration

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

FULL TIME CLAIMS ADJUSTER AND PROCESSOR

The ideal candidate will be responsible in evaluating, monitors and adjust claims in accordance with the Claims Processing and Settlement Procedures; Supervises technical staff to attain optimum efficiency level; Performs claims recovery procedures which might require travelling to Guam from Saipan; Attends directly to claimants and auto shops; Must be a team player and working closely with agents on claims; Generating claims reports and statistics for reinsurance, inter department and management info requirements;

We are looking for:

- Hard working, self-motivated team players with excellent communication and time management skills;
- Preferably at least four (4) years working experience in a non-life insurance company preferably in claims department;
- Must be a four (4) year college degree holder
- Knowledge in automotive damage adjusting and/or estimation;
- Computer literate on Microsoft Office and Oracle based system program
- Customer service and negotiation skills
- Preferably a US citizen, local, resident or an immediate relative

Salary ranges between \$ 7.55 to \$ 10.00 per hour depending on qualification

If interested, please drop off your application and/or resume at our Human Resources Department Office located at the Second Floor JP Center, Saipan or fax it to (670) 234-1845 or e-mail it to customerservice@cicspn.com

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Asia

Insurance guards Chinese do-gooders against scams by elderly

BEIJING (AP)—Now there's an answer to a sad, strange and common question in China: How can someone be a good Samaritan to an elderly person in need without getting scammed?

China's e-commerce giant Alibaba has partnered with an insurance company to introduce a one-year, three-yuan (50-cent) insurance plan that covers up to 20,000 yuan in litigation fees for anyone who wants to help an older person to their feet but is concerned about being accused of knocking them down to begin with. The novelty insurance product attracted more than 60,000 buyers since going on sale Oct. 15.

Concern has grown in recent years with media attention given to various scams in which elderly people are found to have turned against their helpers. Some have been caught on video purposely falling next to cars to rip off the motorists.

A joke circulating in China's social media says a new criterion in judging one's wealth is whether he or she has the guts to help an elderly person.

"Many people want to do good deeds by helping the elderly to their feet, but they

are also worried about getting scammed," said Xu Ting, product manager at Alibaba. "We hope the insurance plan can help reduce some financial costs by paying for litigation fees that can help restore the facts."

One of the best-known cases occurred in 2007 in the eastern city of Nanjing, where a young man took an old woman to a hospital after she fell at a bus stop. When the woman was diagnosed with bone fractures, she demanded that the young man pay the medical bill, saying he knocked her over and should be held responsible for her injuries. The man denied wrongdoing.

Without solid evidence, the court assigned no fault to either party but ruled the man should shoulder 40 percent of the medical costs. The verdict stirred a wave of criticism, with the public largely believing the man had been unfairly punished.

According to the party-run People's Daily, a Chinese college professor examined 149 disputes involving people helping others to their feet between 2004 and this year and concluded that the helpers got framed in 84 cases, the helpers were at



An e-commerce website by Alibaba and Hua'an insurance, also known as Sinosafe Insurance, selling an insurance product to protect good Samaritans from being scammed by elderly people they help is displayed on computer screens in Beijing, Thursday Oct. 22, 2015.

fault in 32 and the facts of the remaining cases were unclear.

"It's chilling that there is a high percentage of cases in which the Samaritans get framed," opined Guangming Daily, another party newspaper.

The People's Daily editorialized on Tuesday that the new

insurance product by Alibaba and Hua'an Insurance provides a possible solution to the moral quandary, but also reflects a failure in China's social morals.

"You can taste frustration and bitterness in this seemingly quite civic-minded and public-minded approach," the People's Daily wrote.

Commentaries have questioned what has turned the elderly into scammers. Some critics have blamed the authoritarian country's political system. Yet many among the Chinese public have arrived at a different consensus: Some bad people have simply grown old.

ASIAN BRIEFS

2 Chinese diplomats killed at restaurant in PH

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Two Chinese diplomats in the Philippines were killed and the consul-general was wounded Wednesday by a Chinese attacker armed with a pistol during a birthday celebration at a restaurant, police said. Police Chief Superintendent Prudencio Tom Banas said it was not immediately clear what prompted the attacker to open fire and kill Deputy Consul-General Sun Shan and finance officer Hui Li of the Chinese Consulate in central Cebu City. Consul-General Song Ronghua was wounded in the attack and was in stable condition at a Cebu hospital, Banas said. "This is really tragic," Banas said by telephone. "We're trying to find out what prompted this shooting."

Investigators call Indian mob killing over beef premeditated

NEW DELHI (AP)—Government investigators said Wednesday the mob killing of a Muslim man over rumors he slaughtered a cow was premeditated, and not a spontaneous act stemming from heightened emotion and religious devotion as many Hindu nationalist politicians have claimed. The killing of Mohammed Akhlaq in north India last month has sparked furious debate about religious tolerance within India, and the role Indian politicians can play in defusing or exacerbating

communal tension. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been criticized for not saying enough, or not saying it quickly enough. Two weeks after the attack, he called it "sad and undesirable" but questioned why the central government should be expected to weigh in rather than the state government. Senior officials from his Bharatiya Janata Party described the attacking mob as "innocents" or the attack as an "accident" that was either understandable or justified.

Baby, toddler die in alleged caste attack on Indian family

NEW DELHI (AP)—A baby and a toddler were killed in a house fire allegedly set by their family's upper caste neighbors, and hundreds of angry residents placed the children's bodies on a key highway near the Indian capital to demand the attackers be arrested. The 2½-year-old and 9-month old were sleeping when the attackers poured gasoline and set the fire in Sunpedh village Monday night. The children died while their mother was in critical condition, police said. The father was injured as he tried to break down the locked door of the house. Federal Home Minister Rajnath Singh described the attack as "very unfortunate and condemnable." He spoke to the chief minister of Haryana statewide the village is located, to ask for immediate steps to restore calm.

TEQUILA PATRÓN

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

Miller Lite

SUMMONS YOU TO CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN

AFTER 10PM • OCTOBER 31ST • CHARLEY'S • PIC SAIPAN

\$5 COVER CHARGE (comes with one free drink)
MUST BE IN COSTUME AND 21 OR OVER TO PARTY
BEST COSTUME WINS a ROOM NIGHT STAY at PIC SAIPAN
\$2 Miller Lite Beer • \$5 Patron Tequila Shot

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB

World

Assad-Putin meeting signals push to end Syria crisis

MOSCOW (AP)—Bashar Assad’s surprise meeting with Vladimir Putin could signal that Russia ultimately seeks a political settlement after weeks of heavy airstrikes in Syria. But the terms of such an arrangement are uncertain, and questions remain about whether Moscow will seek the departure

of its longtime ally or try for a power-sharing agreement. In a further sign that a diplomatic push might be underway to end the four-year crisis, Russia announced Wednesday that Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry had agreed to meet Friday in Vienna with their counterparts

from Saudi Arabia and Turkey—both firm Assad critics. The Syrian president’s visit to Moscow, his first known trip abroad since war broke out in 2011, was announced on Wednesday, the morning after it happened, and raised intense speculation about the two leaders’ motives—and a strong re-

sponse from Washington. “We view the red-carpet welcome for Assad, who has used chemical weapons against his own people, at odds with the stated goal by the Russians for a political transition in Syria,” said White House spokesman Eric Schultz. If nothing else, it underscored how emboldened the embattled

Syrian leader has become in the wake of the Russian airstrikes that began on Sept. 30 and Iran’s deployment of hundreds of ground forces to fight alongside Syrian government troops. Russia says it is targeting militants, especially those of the extremist Islamic State group. But critics, including the U.S., say Moscow’s military intervention

props up Assad and is likely to fan the violence. The oblique references Wednesday by both leaders to their meeting did little to shed light on their ultimate strategy. In a statement, Putin said that along with fighting militants, Moscow believes that “a long-term settlement can only be achieved as part of a political process with the participation of all political forces, ethnic and religious groups.”

Netanyahu causes uproar by linking Palestinians to Holocaust

JERUSALEM (AP)—Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu sparked an uproar in Israel on Wednesday for suggesting that a World War II-era Palestinian leader persuaded the Nazis to adopt their Final Solution to exterminate 6 million Jews. Holocaust experts and survivors slammed Netanyahu’s comments as historically inaccurate and serving the interests of Holocaust deniers by lessening the responsibility of

Adolf Hitler and the Nazis. Critics also said the statement amounts to incitement against modern-day Palestinians in the midst of a wave of violent unrest and high tensions. ■■■ **JERUSALEM** (AP)—Two Arab attackers stabbed an Israeli on Thursday and were then shot by police, as diplomatic efforts continued to try to bring an end to a month-long spate of violence.

Israeli police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said the attackers, whose identities were not immediately known, were seriously wounded. Rosenfeld said the Israeli man was lightly wounded. Police spokeswoman Luba Samri said police saw the attackers stabbing the 25-year-old man near a bus stop in the city of Beit Shemesh, west of Jerusalem, when they shot them.

Mexico arrests suspected organizers of ‘El Chapo’ jailbreak

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico’s government on Wednesday announced the capture of six people believed responsible for the July prison break by Joaquin “El Chapo” Guzman, including the elusive drug lord’s brother-in-law and the suspected mastermind of the escape. Attorney General Arely Gomez said the alleged mastermind is a member of Guzman’s

legal team who had access to the Altiplano prison near Mexico City, and was able to notify the capo of the operation’s progress and receive instructions. The person also purportedly relayed orders and payments to others involved in the escape. Other suspects arrested included Guzman’s brother-in-law, believed to have supervised construction of the mile-long

(1.5-kilometer) escape tunnel and organized transportation; a person who negotiated the purchase of the plot of land where the tunnel emerged; and an airplane pilot. “Today we are able to affirm that the group responsible for planning, organizing and carrying out the escape from outside the prison) has been broken up,” Gomez said.

JVA for YANO Enterprises, Inc.
Dba: Kinpachi Japanese Restaurant

Restaurant Waitress (4): Greeting Customers. Must be able to speak basic Japanese & efficient English & have a friendly & outgoing personality. Should be knowledgeable of the restaurant dishes, familiar with the entire menu the establishment offers. Can introduce & recommend daily specials as well as the restaurant's regular menu items. Continued services after the meal have been served and accept payments & other duties related.


Assistant Cook (2): Responsible for preparing food from main dishes to salads as directed by senior cook, ensuring the quality of different dishes. Under direct supervision, assist cooks in preparation of all kinds of foods using variety of kitchen appliances and equipment; responsible for preparing items prior to meal service such as chopping vegetables, butchering meat or cleaning seafood.

Set up and prepare trays to deliver to patrons, clean kitchen utensils, equipment and food preparations areas including refrigerators, freezers and storage areas and other kitchen related activities as directed. Ensure that kitchen meets sanitation standards set by Department of Public health..

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including weekends and night time.


Applicants of positions listed above except Restaurant Waitress (3 months work experience) are required to have a minimum of 2 - 4 year experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Japanese Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. Please no phone calls.



DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Caller Box 10007, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan
Saipan MP 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315



NOTICE OF APPLICATION

October 22, 2015

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Saipan Comfort Homes	10/01/2015 SMS-2015-X-066	Low Income Residential Units	As Terlaje	Major Siting	Certified Complete* 10/15/2015
2. Tinian Kanadan Magpo Homestead Subdivision	07/07/2015 TMS-2015-X-059	Homestead Subdivision	Tinian	Major Siting	Certified Complete* 10/15/2015
3. DTC Saipan	10/07/2015 SSm-2015-X-068	Filming	Saipan	Shoreline APC	Approved (10/13/2015)*
4. Sea Byte, Inc.	10/08/2015 SLRm-2015-X-069	Rubble Stabilization	Saipan L	Lagoon & Reef APC	Under Review*
5. Saipan Sea Ventures, Inc.	10/13/2015 SPIAPC-2015-X-070	Drydock	South Seaplane Ramp Lower Base	Ports & Industrial APC	Approved (10/20/2015)*
6. Deep Blue Sea Corp.	10/09/2015 S/TLRm-2015-X-071	SCUBA Operation	Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef APC	Under Review*
7. IT&E	10/21/2015 S/T/RWSPIm-99-X-247	Placement of Fiber Optic	Saipan	Major Siting Amendment 2015	Under Review
8. MCC International Ltd. Co.	10/21/2015 SPI-2015-X-072	Stockyard Piling	Puerto Rico, Saipan	Ports & Industrial APC	Under Review*

Require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.



ALL SOULS DAY SERVICES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 02, 2015

ROSARY — 3:30 PM

MASS — 4:00 PM

RESPONSO SERVICE — 5:00 PM



Sanctuario PAX Memorial Gardens in Kagman, Saipan • For more information please call: (670) 235-8572 / (670) 287-5810



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) RUNWAY VACUUM SWEEPER** to the BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA AIRPORT, ROTA, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP No. 3-69-0003-24, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *“Procurement and Delivery of One (1) Runway Vacuum Sweeper to the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, Rota, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0003-24”*, and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new manually operated runway vacuum sweeper for the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport designed especially for use in cleaning pavements to remove debris, dirt and dust from routed cracks of the pavement, all in accordance with the specifications.

A CD-Rom containing the contract documents including specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The procurement is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED (300) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the awarded bidder for each calendar day the completion of the delivery is delayed beyond the completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be “responsive or responsible”, their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 a.m., Friday, November 6, 2015**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: October 21, 2015



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) RUNWAY VACUUM SWEEPER** to the FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, SAIPAN, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP No. 3-69-0002-80, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *“Procurement and Delivery of One (1) Runway Vacuum Sweeper to the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0002-80”*, and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new manually operated runway vacuum sweeper for the Saipan International Airport designed especially for use in cleaning pavements to remove debris, dirt and dust from routed cracks of the pavement, all in accordance with the specifications.

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The procurement is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED (300) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the awarded bidder for each calendar day the completion of the delivery is delayed beyond the completion date without excuse.

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All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: October 21, 2015



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *“Procurement and Delivery of One (1) Runway Vacuum Sweeper to the Tinian International Airport, Tinian, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0011-25”*, and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

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FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: October 21, 2015



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-16-001

WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified insurance firms to provide workers' compensation insurance and administration for CUC's employees throughout the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and when on official business away from the CNMI.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one RFP package set. Prospective Proposers for this RFP must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division by 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 29, 2015 to be considered.

One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *“CUC-RFP-16-001, Workers' Compensation & Administration”*, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than November 17, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 30, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Procurement Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

JOHN RIEGEL
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Science & Technology

YouTube to launch \$10-a-month ad-free video, music plan Red

LOS ANGELES (AP)—YouTube on Wednesday unveiled a new \$10-a-month subscription plan in the U.S. called Red that combines ad-free videos, new original series, movies from top YouTubers, and on-demand unlimited streaming music.

Red builds on Google's existing music streaming service by providing ad-free access to

YouTube programming, along with features such as the ability to download videos to mobile devices and have music playing in the background while using other mobile apps.

Current subscribers to the Google Play Music service, which also costs \$10 a month, will also get access to Red.

"It's a major, major evolu-

tion of our platform," YouTube's chief business officer, Robert Kyncl, told journalists at an event at its studio space in Los Angeles.

Red targets YouTube fans who want to skip ads, while giving them a chance to pass along some cash to their favorite video creators, who'll share in the new revenues.

How to spot a fake online review

By SARAH SKIDMORE SELL
AP BUSINESS WRITER

Do you trust online reviews? Now that Amazon is suing more than 1,000 people who allegedly offered to write glowing product reviews for cash, you might reasonably be concerned.

Deceptive reviews are commonplace online. Fortunately, there are a few good techniques that can help you tell truth from fiction.

DON'T TRUST YOURSELF

A team of researchers at Cornell University created a computer algorithm for detecting fake hotel reviews by analyzing the language used in legitimate and phony write-ups. The computer program, Review Skeptic, is accurate about 90 percent of the time, but humans alone performed poorly at determining the truth teller.

"People are terrible," said professor Claire Cardie, who helped develop the system. "I was very surprised. We just cannot tell the difference much more than chance."

LISTEN TO THE LANGUAGE

Beware of extremes—overly enthusiastic or negative reviews are red flags. False reviews tend to use more extreme language to get their message across. So if someone says "It is the most comfortable bed ever," perhaps in all caps, take pause.

Additionally, the Cornell researchers found that when it comes to hotels, fake reviewers tended not to talk about the spatial details—such as the floor or bathroom. Instead, they focused on the reason they were there, such as describing a recent fake vacation or business trip. In practice, this makes sense because someone who has

never been to a location might have a tough time describing it accurately.

JUNK THE JARGON

On the flip side, beware of recommendations that read like product manuals. Reviews that repeat the full product name or model number may be an attempt to game the search engine system. And if they use excessive technical or marketing jargon, odds are they aren't providing a genuine review—most real people don't talk like that.

REVIEW THE REVIEWER

Check out the profile of the person providing the review, said Louis Ramirez, senior features writer with online deal site DealNews. If they only write reviews for a particular company, that's a huge warning sign they could have a vested interest in that business. Some sites let people upload pictures of the item they bought, which can help add credibility.

Amazon verifies some of its reviewers, indicating they actually bought the product (although some of the people it's suing allegedly found ways around that). Some other sites only allow posts from people who've made a purchase there. Look closely on the site for their review policies.

PAY ATTENTION TO DETAIL

If you think about your own experiences with an unpleasant experience or product, you can probably explain exactly why it was bad. Ramirez suggests if you're unsure about a review, put more stock in someone who provides details of why they didn't like a product ("Oh, the battery only lasted four hours") than in someone who complains more generally ("I hated this laptop. It was horrible").

Downgrade after installing Windows 10 can be hazardous

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)



Q: I installed the Windows 10 upgrade on my laptop. But I didn't like Windows 10, so two weeks later I reversed the upgrade and went back to Windows 7. Then I started receiving messages from Microsoft that my copy of Windows 7 was counterfeit. I tried to reload Windows 10, but my Windows 7 "product key" was rejected and I couldn't perform the up-

grade. Is there a fix?—Harold Kortright, Winter Haven, Fla.

A: Your brief upgrade to Windows 10 has created some electronic confusion that makes Windows 7 appear counterfeit. That's why you're getting warnings from Microsoft.

What's the upgrade got to do with it? Normally, you have 30 days to switch from Windows 10 back to Windows 7. After 30 days, the Windows 7 product key (a kind of password that verifies you have a legal copy of Windows) stops working and your old Windows 7 files are deleted.

But you used Windows 10 for only two weeks, so if your Windows 7 product key has quit working, then something's wrong. Here are some potential solutions you can try.

■ Complain to a Microsoft representative. You can do that by setting up a free account with the Microsoft Answer Desk (see tinyurl.com/nhor9v6). After signing up, you can request to talk to a Microsoft worker via online chat or telephone. The representative will tell you whether your problem can be fixed for free or if you'll have to pay \$99 an hour for help.

■ Try reactivating Windows 7. Go to Start, right click on "computer" and select properties. On the resulting menu, click "Activate Windows now." On the list, first try "Re-type your product key." (To find the key, see tinyurl.com/nch3av6.) If that doesn't work, click "Use the automated phone system to activate." (Choose the nearest location and you'll be given a phone number.) As a third choice, click "Buy a new product key online."

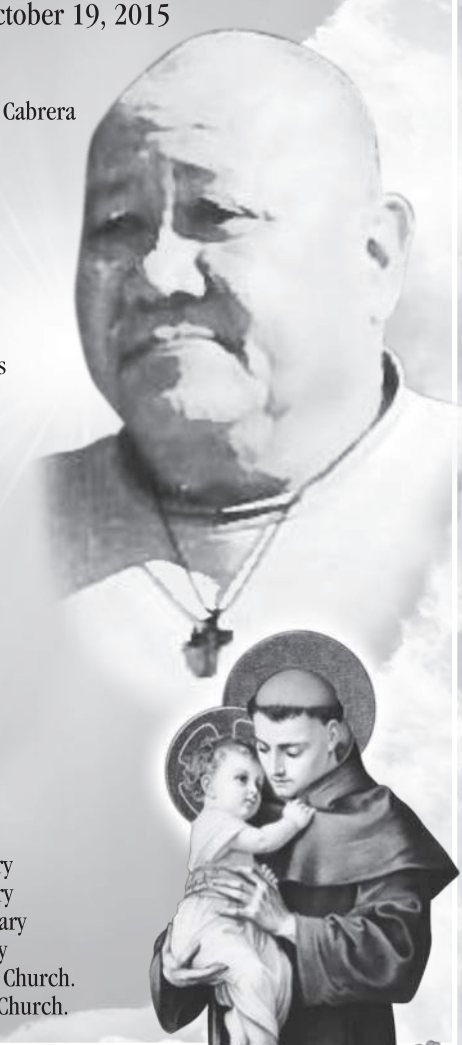
■ Download a new free copy of Windows 7 to a DVD disk or a flash drive (see tinyurl.com/q7p2g7e). Then, after backing up all your PC's data to an external disk drive or flash drive, install the new copy of Windows 7. Doing so will wipe out everything on your hard drive. (This is the option offered to those who waited more than 30 days to reverse the upgrade.)

In Loving Memory of
†Joaquin Cruz Cabrera
"Joaquin Sabana"
October 3, 1939 – October 19, 2015

Husband of **Maria (Kitalang) Duenas Cabrera**

Parents: †Juan Muna and †Ana Kaipat Cruz Cabrera
Sibling: Nieves C. & †Marino Ngeskebei
Parents-in-law: Antonio Villagomez and Rosa Mesgon Reyes Duenas
Brothers/Sisters-in-Law: Rita D. & Vicente Camacho, Margarita R. Duenas, Ricardo & Aurea R. Duenas, Juan R. Duenas, †Mariana D. & Juan M. San Nicolas
Children: James Cabrera, Patrick D. & Susan Castro Cabrera, Jeffrey D. & Marlene P. Cabrera, Joann D. Cabrera
Grandchildren: Joelle C. Cabrera, Kekoa C. Cabrera, Dereck Muna, Donavin P. Cabrera, Renee C. Benavente, Jonathan C. Benavente, Jared C. Benavente, Devin P. Cabrera
Great grandchildren: Joshiah, Joshua, Courtney, Amare', Amir and Karlee Ann

Mass and Rosary Schedule:
Wednesday – Friday: Mt. Carmel Church, 6am Mass
Wednesday – Friday: San Antonio Church, 7pm Rosary
Saturday: San Antonio Church, 6pm Mass, 7pm Rosary
Sunday: San Antonio Church, 7am Mass, 7:30am Rosary
Monday: San Antonio Church, 6pm Mass, 7pm Rosary
Tuesday Funeral Mass will be at 11am at San Antonio Church.
Body will leave CHCC morgue at 7am to San Antonio Church.



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Life & Style

Judge dismisses copyright infringement case against Jay Z



In this photo taken Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015, Filipino director Brillante Mendoza speaks during an interview in Tokyo.

Filipino director Mendoza honored at Tokyo film festival

TOKYO (AP)—Filipino director Brillante Mendoza, taking center stage at the Tokyo International Film Festival, is pursuing a collaboration with other Asian filmmakers—a cultural connection that might be as simple as rice.

The festival, which opened Thursday with red carpet ceremonies, features five films directed by Mendoza, including his latest “Taklub,” shown earlier this year at Cannes. Two Filipino films he has produced are also being shown.

Mendoza has already started preliminary discussions with Isao Yukisada of Japan and Cambodian Sotho Kulikar for a film to be shown at next year’s Tokyo festival.

The prevalence and deeper meaning of cooking and fam-

ily meals in Asian life—and in Asian films—has already come up as one commonality, he said.

“We would like to maximize the connection,” Mendoza said in an interview at a Tokyo hotel.

The festival’s opening film is “The Walk,” about French tightrope daredevil Philippe Petit, directed by Robert Zemeckis, who is among the 400 people attending the opening.

Hillary Swank, who portrays a woman with a fatal illness in “You’re Not You,” and Helen Mirren, of “Woman in Gold,” also walked the red carpet for the festival, which closes Oct. 31.

Mendoza, who has won awards at Cannes, Berlin and Venice, is a rare but powerful voice of independent cinema in a region dominated by sappy

melodrama and Hollywood.

His films are poetically dark, following prostitutes, midwives and poor mothers in back alleys of a slum, spiraling staircases and typhoon-torn beaches. The sometimes shaky hand of his camera gives it a voyeur feel, disguising the certainty of his storytelling.

His characters endure hardships—a devastating typhoon in one, the heartbreaking death of a child in another—often shot in the gorgeous landscapes of the Philippines. The plot is never a simplistic pitting of good versus bad, as in many Hollywood action films.

Mendoza’s people are hard-working, humble, everyday people. But they are sometimes weak, betraying a partner’s love or simply giving up.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge on Wednesday dismissed a copyright infringement case against rapper Jay Z over his 1999 hit “Big Pimpin’” before the case was sent to a jury.

U.S. District Judge Christina A. Snyder ruled the heir of an Egyptian composer did not have the right to pursue a copyright infringement claim. She did not explain her decision in detail, but told jurors she tossed out the case after hearing testimony from experts on Egyptian law.

The nephew of Baligh Hamdi, an Egyptian composer whose 1957 song “Khosara Khosara” is partially used in “Big Pimpin’,” sued Jay Z, pro-

ducer Timbaland and several media companies in 2007. Flute notes that Hamdi composed are repeated throughout the Jay Z song, and nephew Osama Ahmed Fahmy claimed they exploited “Khosara Khosara” without proper permission.

“We think it’s completely wrong, and we’ll appeal,” Fahmy’s attorney, Pete Ross, said after the ruling.

The abrupt end to the case came after the rapper and Timbaland testified about creating the rap hit and their belief that they had valid rights to use the Egyptian song. It is rare for copyright cases involving major media properties such as films

or music to reach the trial stage. Wednesday’s ruling avoided a repeat of a trial earlier this year when jurors awarded Marvin Gaye’s children millions of dollars after finding the 2013 hit “Blurred Lines” infringed one of their father’s hits.

Timbaland paid \$100,000 in 2001 to settle a claim about usage of Hamdi’s song, which was written for a 1957 film, and testified that he believed he could use it.

His attorney, Christine Lepera, praised the ruling, saying the hit-making producer maintained throughout the eight-year case that he didn’t infringe on any copyrights to create the music for the rap song.

Chris Rock to host ABC’s Oscar broadcast next year

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Chris Rock is coming back to host the Oscars for a second time.

The show’s producers say the prolific comedian-filmmaker will be at the helm for the 88th Academy Awards on Feb. 28 at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles. Producers David Hill and Reginald Hudlin called Rock “the MVP of the entertainment industry.”

The 50-year-old entertainer posted a photo of himself with an Oscar statuette on Twitter Wednesday with the caption, “Look who’s back.”

More than 42 million viewers tuned in when Rock hosted the 77th Academy Awards in

2005, compared to 37 million for this year’s show.

Rock is the only non-white Oscar host to helm the show since that appearance 11 years ago. The film academy has visibly increased its diversity

outreach efforts since it was derided earlier this year for its all-white slate of acting nominees.

Hollywood is “a white industry. Just as the NBA is a black industry,” Rock wrote in a much-discussed essay late last year. He said that even though some things are changing—



Rock

“not only are black movies making money, they’re expected to make money”—there are still too few people of color on both sides of the camera.

Rock has won four Emmy Awards for his comedy series and specials. He recently directed the comedy special “Amy Schumer: Live at the Apollo” for HBO. In 2014, he wrote, directed and starred in the feature “Top Five,” and in 2009, he produced, wrote and starred in the documentary “Good Hair.”

Sesame Workshop’s Muppets get new friend with autism

LOS ANGELES (AP)—There’s a newcomer on the Sesame Street block, a preschooler with autism named Julia.

The Sesame Workshop said Wednesday that the character is being introduced as part of an initiative to take the stigma out of autism. The initiative

also is aimed at helping those who deal with the developmental disorder.

Julia will be included in digital and printed story books featuring Sesame Workshop characters including Elmo and Abby.

She will be portrayed as a girl who “does things a little different-

ly” when playing with her Muppet friends, the workshop said.

The new initiative, called “See Amazing in All Children,” will provide educational resources about autism to teachers and others. It also will offer tools for handling everyday activities to families touched by it.

Paying grandma for child care becomes divorce war weapon

DEAR ABBY: My daughter and her husband are divorced, and I take care of their twin daughters after school. I love the girls and treasure the time I get to spend with them.

Their parents’ combined income is more than \$120,000. I am on a fixed income and ask for only \$10 per day (plus \$10 a week for gas) so I can take the girls places like the zoo or an occasional movie (which usually costs more than I am given). I feed them one meal a day on this budget as well.

Whenever discussions about money occur, the ex-husband repeatedly tells my daughter he thinks it’s “offensive” that a grandparent charges money to watch the grandchildren. He uses it as a tactic to threaten to not pay for other needed expenses. How do I tell him I think he’s out of line for making me feel bad for requesting the money?

STUNNED AND HURT IN TEMPE, ARIZ.

DEAR STUNNED AND HURT: Your former son-in-law may have some bitterness because of the divorce. Whatever his reason, his children should not suffer for it. Frankly, he should be ashamed of himself.

If he raises the subject of being “offended” with you, remind him in PLAIN ENGLISH that you are on a limited income, food is expensive and if the money wasn’t NEEDED you

wouldn’t ask for it. It’s the truth. It’s nothing to be ashamed of and certainly not offensive.

Let’s do the math: Your granddaughters go to school five days a week; that’s \$50, plus \$10 a week for gas. That’s \$60! If they were in day care instead of being looked after by you, the cost would be many times that amount.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am an executive assistant. A few years ago, my boss passed away after a long illness. My 13 years with her accounted for the longest consistent span of my career, and for obvious reasons, I was not able to get a letter of recommendation. It was difficult applying for jobs without being able to provide a first-hand reference from my longest employer.

I am now happily employed, but I worry sometimes about what if it happens again. My current boss is in his early 50s, but not in the best health. I have no intention of going anywhere, and I don’t want to send him the wrong signal, but I’m wondering if it would be inappropriate to ask him for a reference letter, just to make sure I don’t find myself in the same situation again. BTW, he knows about my former situation, so I think he would understand, but I’m not sure.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT IN GEORGIA

DEAR EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT: I’m sorry about the death of your former employer, but your lack of a letter of reference should

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



not have prevented you from finding another job. Your length of employment should have been proof enough that you were an asset to the company.

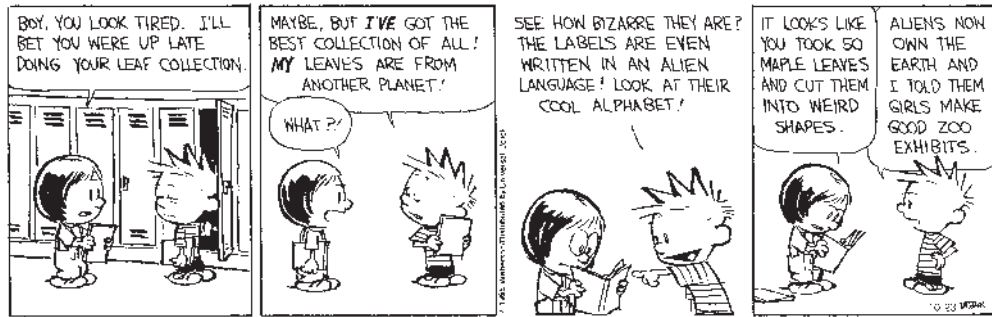
I do not think it would be a good idea to approach your boss about giving you a letter of reference for a couple of reasons. First, it might be regarded as a signal that you are not happy with your job. And second, because of fear of litigation, many employers today are reluctant to give out any information about an employee other than the length of time the person worked for the company.

To order “How to Write Letters for All Occasions,” send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



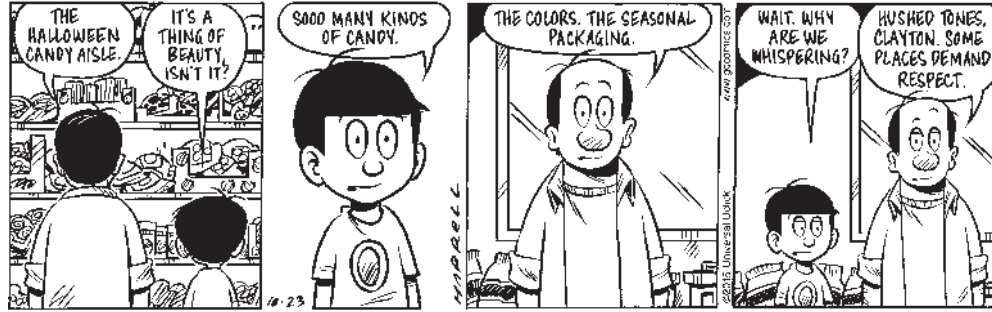
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Cauldron
4 Co- (some dwellings)
7 One of Franklin's certainties
12 Inseparable
13 Tear
14 Pond buildup
15 Felonious flight
16 Beach sandals
18 Shriek bark
19 Nimble
20 Front of a ship
22 Matter-horn, for one
23 Spill the beans
27 Rowing need
29 Private gesture?
31 Extra benefit
34 Orion's brightest star
35 Put through the blender, maybe

DOWN

2 Where the elated walk
3 Beat
4 Com-poser Carl
5 Post
6 Sales pitch
7 Loony line?
8 Right angle
9 Past
10 Spigot
11 Father and son
17 Energizes, with "up"
21 Made on a loom
23 A big rush
24 Drag along
25 Noshed
26 — canto
28 Nay canceler
30 Jackie's second mate
31 Coll. transcript stat
32 Piratic potation
33 Exist
36 Carvey or Delany
37 Money lender
40 Insurance ad lizard
42 October birth-stones
43 Belly-button
44 Plaintive poem
45 Open slightly
46 Despot
48 Sky safety org.
49 Parcel of land
50 Museum stuff
51 Bake sale grp.

Solution time: 25 mins.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13				14			
15			16			17				
18			19							
20		21		22			23	24	25	26
		27	28			29	30			
31	32	33					34			
35				36		37				
38				39	40		41	42	43	44
			45			46		47		
48	49	50	51					52		
53					54				55	
56					57				58	

Yesterday's answer 10-23

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5951. 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ryan Reynolds, 39; Nancy Grace, 56; Weird Al Yankovic, 56; Dwight Yoakam, 59.

Happy Birthday: Your inconsistent attitude will be confusing for the people around you. Try to keep your thoughts to yourself until you have clear vision and a plan that will help you follow your ideas to fruition. Helping others is noble, but you must take care of your needs first and strive to reach your goals. Your numbers are 1, 7, 13, 26, 34, 39, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can make a difference if you voice your opinion and do your best to bring about positive changes. Let your competitive nature put you in a position where you will have greater control over your life, environment and future. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Network, share your interests and put more into your relationships with the people you find most uplifting. An opportunity will come from a most unusual source. Don't rule out anything before you have taken time to investigate the possibilities. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Be prepared to make last-minute changes in order to avoid a situation that could get ugly. Use discipline and you'll avoid emotional reactions from unreasonable people. Learn from past mistakes instead of repeating them. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Choose to make personal improvements instead of focusing on what others do wrong. Build your self-esteem by working hard at doing your best. It's easy to hide behind a negative

attitude, but you can rise above it if you show courage. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Socialize and you will meet someone important. Your insight and the expressive way you interact with others will result in exciting opportunities. Initiate the changes you would like to see happen. A day trip will help you relax. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Socialize with friends who contribute as much as you do. Surround yourself with people who are supportive, progressive and forward-thinking. Make a romantic move that will bring you closer to someone you love. Don't limit what you can do. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't hide from your problems. Express your thoughts and feelings and put the past behind you. Letting someone hold something over your head will be debilitating. It's up to you to take control of your life. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): An interesting idea will grab your attention. Look for ways to incorporate new concepts into your current lifestyle in order to bring about a healthier balance between work and play. Too much of either will lead to costly consequences. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't overreact to what's going on around you. Evading difficult issues will not make them disappear. Eventually you will be forced to be honest and share your thoughts. You'll have more fun if you deal with matters promptly. **

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't rely on anyone to handle important personal matters. You can get a lot more done if you work alone. Plan a nice surprise for someone who means the world to you. Your efforts will be appreciated. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Observe others' reactions and you will know where you stand. A chance to put money aside will help you feel at ease and in control. A change of attitude regarding someone or something from your past will improve your outlook. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't count on anyone to honor a promise and you won't be disappointed. Rely on yourself and your resources in order to finish what you start. Keep your personal affairs a secret and you'll sidestep someone trying to damage your reputation. ***

Birthday Baby: You are bold, proactive and precise. You are inquisitive and original.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

8		6		5				9
		3		7				
			3				6	4
						4		
3	8						5	2
		7						
4	5				1			
				8		6		
2				9		7		5

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

10/23

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

1	4	6	3	9	8	2	7	5
2	7	8	5	6	1	3	9	4
9	3	5	4	7	2	1	8	6
6	8	7	1	2	4	9	5	3
4	5	9	7	3	6	8	1	2
3	1	2	9	8	5	6	4	7
7	6	1	8	4	3	5	2	9
5	9	3	2	1	7	4	6	8
8	2	4	6	5	9	7	3	1

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

EXTRA COSTS OF FLYING

Solution: 8 letters

T G N O Y R R A C O L O G N E
H N S S E C X E S L A E M E S
G I E V E K O E E C I V R E S
I T I M C A G S K N I R D R E
E A I A N N S S M B I A Y F L
W E N C A I S O A E R W B Y E
E S P H K E A G N G T O A T C
C T C E C E G T P B O I B U T
I A O C T A T U R K A R C D I
U X A K G S D S I E E Z I S O
J E W E L R Y N O S T S O C N
I S X D F N G G R W I N D O W
M I N O R S E L I T E S E E F
T M O V I E S S T E K N A L B
S D U B R A E S Y A R T F I G

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Access, Baby, Baggage, Blankets, Bookings, Carry-on, Changes, Checked, Cologne, Cosmetics, Costs, Drinks, Duty-free, Earbuds, Elite, Entertainment, Excess, Exit, Fees, Food, Gift, Jewelry, Juice, Meals, Minors, Movies, Pets, Priority, Season, Seating, Selection, Service, Size, Snack, Taxes, Tickets, Trays, Upgrades, Waiver, Weight, Window, Wine

Yesterday's Answer: State Rooms

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 120 puzzles.)

Murphy homers again, Mets sweep Cubs to reach World Series



CHICAGO

(AP)—Daniel Murphy chased his son, Noah, up the third base line at Wrigley Field. Manager Terry Collins sprayed champagne on a small group of fans behind the visitor's dugout. David Wright soaked in the moment he chased for so long.

A new generation of Amazins is heading to the World Series.

Murphy homered for a record sixth consecutive post-season game, and the New York Mets brushed aside the Chicago Cubs 8-3 on Wednesday night for a National League Championship Series sweep.

"I can't explain it. It's such a blessing to contribute to what we've been able to do," Murphy said.

Lucas Duda hit a three-run homer in the first inning and a two-run double in the second at Wrigley Field, silencing a crowd of 42,227 desperately hoping for the beginning of an epic comeback in Game 4.

Not this time. Not with New York's array of power arms, and Murphy swinging a hot stick that made him the NLCS MVP.

The Mets never trailed against the Cubs and advanced to the World Series for the first time since they lost to the cross-town Yankees in five games in 2000. They will play at either Toronto or Kansas City in Game 1 on Tuesday night—the Royals lead 3-2 in the ALCS.

But the first big question for

AP
New York Mets' Daniel Murphy celebrates after Game 4 of the National League baseball championship series against the Chicago Cubs Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015, in Chicago.



New York is the health of center fielder Yoenis Cespedes, who left in the second inning with soreness in his left shoulder.

Any health issue for the slugger could be a big factor in the next round.

"Cespedes' shoulder is going

to be OK," Collins said. "They didn't think there was any damage. They thought an injection would calm it down in a day, so

he'll be ready."

The Cubs, meanwhile, still haven't won the crown since 1908. Manager Joe Maddon's wild-card bunch surged into this series, but was overmatched.

"They did not let us up for air at any point," Maddon said. "Their domination of the early part of the game and their pitching was impressive."

When Dexter Fowler looked at a called third strike for the final out, Jeurys Familia dropped to his knees in front of the mound and then hopped up for a hug from catcher Travis d'Arnaud. They were soon joined by the rest of their jubilant teammates in the infield grass.

By wrapping it up fast, the Mets can now set up their imposing rotation how they want for the World Series. Jacob deGrom, Matt Harvey and Noah Syndergaard will all be on full rest, and then some.

"This is a long time coming," Wright said. "We've been through some bad times. We've been through Septembers where you're just playing out the schedule and that's no fun. To be able to completely reverse that 180 and now celebrate and get a chance to go to the World Series, I wish I could bottle it all. I really do. That's an emotion I'll never forget."

Right when it looked as if his historic streak was coming to an end, Murphy connected for a two-run drive to center against Fernando Rodney in the eighth

inning. The second baseman raised his right arm as he rounded first after his seventh homer of the playoffs - the string includes a shot in the deciding Game 5 of the Division Series at Dodger Stadium last week.

Murphy, who was tied with Carlos Beltran for the post-season homer streak, finished with four hits and batted .529 (9 for 17) in the series.

D'Arnaud also homered as the Mets won their fifth pennant. Bartolo Colon pitched 1 1-3 scoreless innings for his first playoff win since 2001, for Cleveland at Seattle. The 14 years, 12 days between post-season victories for the 42-year-old right-hander snapped the major league record of exactly 14 years for Milt Wilcox, according to STATS.

Colon, who made 31 starts this season, replaced rookie Steven Matz with two out in the fifth and runners on first and second. He struck out Kris Bryant swinging on a 3-2 pitch, preserving New York's 6-1 lead.

Bryant hit a two-run homer in the eighth, but it was way too late for Chicago in its first appearance in the NLCS in 12 years. The Cubs shut out Pittsburgh in the wild-card game and eliminated rival St. Louis in the division series, but were unable to mount much of a challenge against the Mets' talented pitching staff.

"I think we're in a place nobody expected us to be and we can be proud of that," Bryant said. "We were four wins away from going to the World Series. I think a lot of people didn't really expect us to be here."

The Cubs also loaded the bases with no outs in the fourth, and only came away with one run on Kyle Schwarber's grounder to first. Starlin Castro lined right to Wright at third on a hard smash for the first out.

While the Mets' pitching dominated much of the series, it was clear the Cubs were in trouble after aces Jon Lester and Jake Arrieta dropped the first two games in New York. Kyle Hendricks lasted just four innings on Tuesday night, and Jason Hammel was even worse in Game 4.

With two out and a runner on in the first, Hammel walked Cespedes before Duda hit a long drive to center for his first playoff homer. D'Arnaud followed with a shot to right for the Mets' second set of consecutive homers in playoff history, joining Darryl Strawberry and Kevin McReynolds in Game 4 of the 1988 NLCS against Los Angeles.

Hammel was replaced by Travis Wood after a one-out walk in the second, and Duda drove home two more runs with a double into the gap in right-center. Duda was just 3 for 24 in the playoffs coming into the night.

Estrada leads Blue Jays over Royals 7-1 to force ALCS Game 6

TORONTO (AP)—Marco Estrada took the mound with one task: save the season for the Toronto Blue Jays.

He did it, pitching one-hit ball into the eighth inning to give Toronto's tattered bullpen a rest, and the Blue Jays beat the Kansas City Royals 7-1 Wednesday to close to 3-2 in the best-of-seven American League Championship Series.

"It's the start that we needed," shortstop Troy Tulowitzki said. "They're a great team over there. We know that. But this guy kept them off balance and allowed the offense to settle in and get some runs."

Tulowitzki provided three of those runs. He broke the game open with a bases-clearing double off Kelvin Herrera in the sixth, giving him seven RBIs in the series. Edwin Encarnacion had walked with the bases loaded against Edinson Volquez, who seemed flustered by a couple of close calls against the Royals.

Kansas City totaled 22 runs and 30 hits in the first two games in Toronto, but Estrada faced the minimum 20 batters before Lorenzo Cain walked with two outs in the seventh. Closer Roberto Osuna was perfect in the ninth.

Yordano Ventura will start for the defending AL champions on Friday in Game 6 against David Price, the Game 2 loser.

Estrada, a 32-year-old free-agent to be, kept the bullpen door closed for most of the afternoon, a day after Kansas City romped 14-2 in a game that saw infielder Cliff Pennington pitch in the ninth.

"This time around I had a better fastball command," said Estrada, who gave up three runs in the opener. "That was the key to this game."

Toronto is trying to become just the 13th team to rally and win among 80 who trailed 3-1 in best-of-seven postseason series. It has happened four of 17 times in the LCS, including when the Royals bounced back against the Blue Jays in 1985 en route to Kansas City's only World Series title. In this year's best-of-five Division Series, Toronto fell behind 0-2, then won three straight against Texas.

Before 49,325 roaring fans, Chris Colabello's solo homer into the left-field seats in the second gave Estrada a lead. It was the only mistake by Volquez, the Game 1 winner.

Estrada didn't make a mis-

cue until Salvador Perez homered with two outs in the eighth. Estrada retired his first nine batters, ending at four Alcides Escobar's record streak of leading off playoff games with hits.

Escobar, who entered 9 for 15 (.600), got Kansas City's first hit when he opened the fourth with a ground single past a diving Tulowitzki.

Zobrist promptly grounded into a double play to second baseman Ryan Goins.

"He was really good today," Escobar said. "He threw the ball down, down and away, down and in. He didn't miss many pitches today."

Kansas City had no other runners until Cain walked with two outs in the seventh. Price was up in the bullpen, but Estrada got Eric Hosmer to fly out.

Volquez allowed just two singles after Colabello connected but lost the strike zone in the sixth.

Ben Revere led off with a walk and Volquez hit Josh Donaldson with the first pitch. In August, Volquez hit Donaldson in a testy game that included a benches-clearing scum.

He then walked Jose Bautista in a 10-pitch at-bat on a knuckle curve that looked to

get a piece of the plate.

"I thought the pitch to Bautista was definitely a strike," Royals manager Ned Yost said.

Yost shouted from the dugout for Perez to appeal to first base on ball four, thinking Bautista may have swung. But it was too loud in the closed-roof stadium for Perez to hear.

"We were trying to get their attention to get him to appeal it," Yost said. "I don't know if he was arguing the pitch, I don't know what he was talking about."

Encarnacion walked on another pitch that upset Volquez and Yost. Volquez turned his back to plate umpire Dan Iassogna as Revere jogged home for a 2-0 lead. It was his last batter.

"When you lose your fastball command, it's hard for the umpire to give you the close pitches," Volquez said.

Herrera relieved and struck out Colabello. With the crowd chanting "Tu-lo! Tu-lo!" Tulowitzki sent a drive to the center-field wall, sending fans into a towel-waving frenzy.

Bautista and Donaldson had consecutive doubles off Danny Duffy in the seventh to make it 6-0, and Kevin Pillar doubled in a run in the eighth.

Patriots' Brady says he wants to play '10 more years'



FLORHAM PARK, N.J. (AP)—Tom Brady has no plans to retire anytime soon.

That means the AFC East—and the rest of the NFL, for that matter—might have to deal with the New England Patriots quarterback for a while longer.

"I'd like to play a long time, yeah, a long time," Brady said during a conference call with New York Jets reporters Wednesday.

"There's a lot that goes into playing well. I've played with a lot of great teammates, but I want to play for a long time. Maybe 10 more years. I think that's probably what my goal is."

When asked if he was being serious about playing another decade, Brady insisted that is definitely his plan.

"Well, it's not always up to me," he acknowledged. "That's what my goals are, so that's just what I'm hoping. And it will take a lot to achieve that. Obviously, a team has to want you, but I think that's, you know, I love playing this sport. I love making a commitment to my teammates and my coaches, and hopefully I can do it for a long time."

The 38-year-old Brady has shown no signs of slowing



New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady (12) throws before an NFL football game against the Indianapolis Colts in Indianapolis, Sunday, Oct. 18, 2015.

down.

He's tied for second in the league with 14 touchdown passes while throwing just one inter-

ception. His 1,699 yards passing rank him fifth in the NFL, and he is completing 70.6 percent of his passes.

"It's a great mark, there's no doubt about it," he said. "To complete 70 percent is hard to do, but I would say it may re-

flect on the quarterback, but to me, it really reflects on the entire offense because it's just, you've got to spread it around

players and have an astounding 18 takeaways.

Brandon McManus has made 16 of 17 field goal tries and all of his PATs.

It seems all anyone wants to harp on, however, is that awful offense.

"That's just the world we live in," Miller said. "If we were scoring 45 points on offense and had the No. 1 defense and B-Mac was missing every field goal, they'd be like, 'OK, we got to get the kicker straight or we're not going to win.' It's always going to be something. So, I'm glad it's something and we're 6-0."

Following Denver's latest escape, a 26-23 overtime win at Cleveland, running back Ronnie Hillman took to Twitter to defend his catawampus quarterback.

"Ya need to get off Peyton that's our QB bottom line. You fake fans don't say anything when he is winning us the game smh," Hillman wrote.

Has any 6-0 team ever had this many doubters and detractors?

Maybe the 2009 Broncos, under Josh McDaniels, whose team plummeted to 8-8 and missed the playoffs.

There are two holdovers from that squad, tackle Ryan Harris and safety David Bruton Jr., both of whom insist this team isn't going to collapse as that one did.

"It's a whole new team, whole new era, from coaches, players, down," Bruton said. "We don't think we're going to fall apart. We have a bunch of hungry guys, guys who want to make plays, guys who want to get better week in and week out. I don't see that happening."

Denver Broncos unbeaten but not unblemished

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP)—With all the passes Demaryius Thomas is dropping and the grief Peyton Manning is catching, you'd think the Denver Broncos were 0-6 instead of 6-0.

Instead of congratulatory texts on their cellphones after games, they find caustic comments on social media.

Twenty-five drives between offensive touchdowns, in danger of losing all six games in the final minutes, head-scratching penalties.

"It doesn't have to be pretty," linebacker Brandon Marshall insists. "As long as we find a way to win, that's all that matters."

When style points start to count give him a call, suggested running back C.J. Anderson, noting there are plenty of teams "running the ball great or catching the ball great" and trudging off the field in defeat every week.

So, "I think we're fine," he said.

That's the same phrase coach Gary Kubiak used recently when he was asked if the answer to what ails the Broncos might just be the zip, zig and zag that backup QB Brock Osweiler could bring to the field.

"No," Kubiak said. "Peyton's doing just fine."

Both coach and quarterback insist they'll continue to work hard at making this marriage work, starting with finding ways to reduce the turnovers.

Manning's league-leading 10 interceptions are as many as he had in all of 2013, when he threw



Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning (18) prepare to pass during the first half of an NFL football game against the Cleveland Browns, Sunday, Oct. 18, 2015, in Cleveland.

seven TD passes in that year's opener alone—the same number he has through six games now.

The Broncos' offense is ranked 29th overall, 31st in third down efficiency and 29th in the red zone.

"We've got as many wins as we can have after six weeks," Kubiak said, "but are we as good as we can be? No. We understand that."

There's no chest-thumping going on, and that's a good sign to the coaches that the Broncos aren't about to let their undefeated status or even their defiance mask the need to fix things when they get back from their bye and prepare for a visit from the Green Bay Packers, also 6-0.

"Anybody who thinks they have accomplished something through Week 6 is terribly wrong," cornerback Aqib Talib said. "We know we've got a long way to go."

Denver's No. 1-ranked defense needs to clean up the silly penalties that keep giving opponents extra chances.

Denver's offense is averaging just 1.5 touchdowns a game. That's less than Tim Tebow's scoring-challenged teams, which averaged two TDs per game and were also bailed out by a stout defense and a strong kicker.

The difference was "Tebowmania" took the league by storm while Manning's struggles have Broncos fans and fantasy foot-

ball owners befuddled, wondering if age has caught up to the NFL's 39-year-old icon.

Critics say the Broncos' blueprint will wilt when the leaves and temperatures fall and the Packers, Patriots (Nov. 29) and Bengals (Dec. 28) come calling.

Denver's O-line has been a revolving door with guards Evan Mathis and Louis Vasquez ailing, their tight ends have been non-factors and Anderson, a Pro Bowler a year ago, is averaging just 30 yards a game and has zero touchdowns.

But, oh that defense.

Led by Von Miller with an NFL-best 31 quarterback hurries, the Broncos have collected a league-high 26 sacks by 11

to different people."

Brady's Patriots (5-0) take on the AFC East-rival Jets (4-1) on Sunday at MetLife Stadium. New England has the second-ranked overall offense, while New York boasts the No. 1 overall defense.

"They're loaded with players and that's, I think, why they're tops in the league in basically every category that you look at," Brady said. "So it's a big challenge, and hopefully we can nail things down by the time the game kicks off Sunday."

Seattle's Fred Jackson uninjured in car crash

RENTON, Wash. (AP)—Seattle Seahawks running back Fred Jackson was uninjured when his car crashed outside the team's facility on Tuesday.

The Renton Police Department said shortly before 5 p.m. PDT on Tuesday, Jackson lost control of his 2016 Chevrolet Corvette as he drove down Seahawks Way. The crash happened about 48 hours before the Seahawks face the San Francisco 49ers in a Thursday night game.

Jackson's vehicle sustained moderate front end damage. Jackson remained on scene until officers arrived and was cooperative. He was then taken by team personnel back to the facility and did not report any injuries.

Photos of Jackson's car with New York license plates were seen on social media. A stop sign and street signs were knocked over in the wreck. The accident happened at the end of a long straight road with a slight bend at the end that leads from the Seahawks facility to Lake Washington Blvd. The stop sign knocked over was in front of a "Welcome to Renton" sign that includes the Seahawks logo.

Early reports indicated Jackson may have been racing with a teammate and that's what caused the accident, but Renton police say those reports are false and there was no indication that Jackson was racing.

Jackson tweeted thanks to those who expressed concern later Tuesday night and wrote he simply lost control and wasn't racing.

"My teammates, including Marshawn (Lynch), stopped 2 check on me," Jackson wrote.

Jackson signed with Seattle right before the start of the regular season after being a surprise cut by the Buffalo Bills. The move to Seattle reunited Jackson with Lynch, a teammate with the Bills.

Jackson has been used sparingly and mostly as a third-down running back with the Seahawks. He suffered a high-ankle sprain in a Monday night game against Detroit but played six days later against Cincinnati.

Jackson has 10 carries for 52 yards and 12 catches for 110 yards and a touchdown in Seattle's first six games.

Cavaliers, Thompson reach agreement on long-term contract



CLEVELAND (AP)—Already an elite rebounder, Tristan Thompson snatched a long-term contract from the Cavaliers.

The restricted free-agent forward has agreed in principle with the defending Eastern Conference champions on a five-year, \$82 million contract, ending his holdout and giving the Cavs needed frontcourt depth as

they enter a new season.

The team confirmed Wednesday night that it had a verbal agreement with Thompson, who helped the Cavs get to the NBA Finals last season by filling in for an injured Kevin Love. Thompson

had been seeking a maximum deal, while the Cavs made it known they valued the former No. 4 overall pick, but weren't going to overpay for a reserve.

The sides had been in an awkward stalemate, which threatened to carry over into the regular season. However agent Rich Paul, who also represents star LeBron James, and Cleveland's front office were able to come to terms less than a week before the opener at Chicago.

There's a chance the deal will be finalized Thursday and Thompson, who has been working out on his own during the holdout, can begin practicing.

Thompson posted a photo on Instagram wearing a Cavaliers'

baseball cap.

"It's been a long summer of grinding and hard work but now it's back to The Land to take care of some unfinished business," Thompson wrote.

With Thompson's deal and extensions given this summer to James, Love, J.R. Smith and Iman Shumpert, owner Dan Gilbert has shelled out nearly \$300 million in guaranteed money during the offseason.

Thompson will be among the league's highest-paid power forwards.

When Thompson declined to sign a one-year, \$6.9 million qualifying offer from the team last month, it appeared he might be willing to sit out part

of the regular season. James had called Thompson's holdout a "distraction" and the impasse over the contract threatened to sidetrack the Cavs from getting back to the Finals.

But now Thompson will back up Love and provide his usual energy for Cleveland's second unit.

Thompson came through in the playoffs after Love dislocated his left shoulder in the first round. The affable 24-year-old averaged 9.6 points and 10.8 rebounds in the postseason. He averaged 8.5 points and 8.0 rebounds in the regular season.

Cleveland chose Thompson three selections after drafting Kyrie Irving with the first overall pick in 2011.



In this Friday, May 22, 2015 file photo, Cleveland Cavaliers center Tristan Thompson (13) moves past Atlanta Hawks forward Paul Millsap (4) during the second half in Game 2 of the Eastern Conference finals of the NBA basketball playoffs in Atlanta.

AP

Think there are too many NBA preseason games? So do coaches

By BRIAN MAHONEY
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Real basketball is almost here.

The NBA preseason schedule, with so many games that Gregg Popovich didn't even bother going to San Antonio's opener, is mercifully nearing its end.

It's already over for Kobe Bryant, nursing an injury. LeBron James also was done last week.

Everyone would be, if some coaches had their way.

The schedule can become such a bore that Milwaukee's Jason Kidd longs for the glory days of the lockout, when teams could squeeze in only two warmup games before the real ones arrived.

"No one complained," Kidd said.

They do now.

The league allows for a maximum of eight preseason games, or nearly one-tenth of an entire regular season. But it's condensed into a span of just three weeks, sometimes creating the necessity of back-to-backs that players dread when the games count, let alone when they're just for practice.

Kidd, who was still playing when the 2011 lockout ended, favors four preseason games. Cleveland coach David Blatt agrees.

"I've expressed myself to the people that make those decisions on more than one occasion," Blatt said. "My voice

is only one, but it's clearly my opinion that we should play four, maximum five preseason games and create a situation where we could have fewer back-to-backs and give players a little bit more time to rest and a little bit less wear and tear during the preseason."

It's not that coaches want to shorten the preseason itself. They like the month they get between the start of training camp and the beginning of the regular season.

It's just that the games get in the way of the work.

"It's something that with the CBA you can only have five days of training camp, and you can have two-a-days and even in that, one of the practices is only an hour with limited contact," Nets coach Lionel Hollins said. "You need practice time. Guys need to be able to prepare and get comfortable with each other, get comfortable with whatever you're trying to implement. It's hard in the preseason when you're playing and traveling like you do during the regular season. There's really no need to."

Well, there is to the organizations and the league. New rules can be tested, game-night operations ironed out, and of course, money can be made.

"I like the number of games. I love giving young players a chance to play. And off the court it lets us get our entertainment and presentation put together," Dallas owner Mark

Cuban said.

"It's also the best and really only way to introduce NBA teams around the world."

The NBA added preseason games in Canada and staged another exhibition in Brazil, seeking to drum up more interest before the All-Star Game and Olympics are held in those countries in 2016. And the two-game trip to China got a boost with the inclusion of the Charlotte Hornets, sending owner Michael Jordan to fans that are crazy about basketball.

The Hornets paid for it, though, on the back end with four games in six nights, a brutal stretch that would have coaches seething if the NBA had drawn it up.

But the teams handle their own preseason scheduling, determining how many games to play (there is no minimum) and how often. Coaches aren't always thrilled with what they get. Hollins didn't like that the Nets' six-game slate included two games apiece against Atlantic Division rivals Boston and Philadelphia.

"I wouldn't mind playing some of the Western teams that are close by, but it is what it is," he said. "It's easy to get to these games and it makes the travel different. It's not a huge issue, but I would prefer to play some teams that you're not playing all year long in your division, in your conference, that you're battling with for playoff positions."

BLUE

From Page 28

On the other hand, Blue Haus got one field goal each from Angelo Fernando, Elmer Esdrelon, Bart Demapan, and Manolo Manalo and a split from Marlon De Dios and two more free throws from Esdrelon to post their biggest lead in the game, 70-61, down to the last 50 seconds of the match.

A quick triple from Derrick Rangamar kept Cholos' hopes alive, 64-70, and Jun Tabora gambled on a foul against De Dios, hoping to stop the ticking clock quickly and praying for the latter's misses at the stripe. However, De Dios canned the important charities for Blue Haus' safe distance, while Cholos faltered in its triple attempts in the ensuing plays, allowing the debuting squad to take the win.

Esdrelon top-scored for Blue Haus with his 22 points, while Brendon Talania and Demapan backed him up, adding 17 and

10, respectively. Lizama paced Cholos with his 14 markers, while Tabora contributed 13.

Meanwhile, in the masters division Erika's Catering/Ferrera Builders notched its second straight win after dominating Maplas, 81-66.

Erika's (2-1) led from start to finish to move up to solo first place in the team standings, while Maplas dropped its opener.

Four Erika's players broke into double figures to lift their team to the easy victory with Dante Tabora leading the way with his 20 points. Rodney Catalla chipped in 16, while George Villasan and Danny Illahi tallied 14 and 12, respectively.

Erika's pulled away in the second half, turning a 10-point halftime lead, 41-31, to a 61-44 advantage after the third behind the 9 markers of Illahi. Illahi closed out strong for Erika's in the third period, making four of the team's last five field goals in that quarter. Dante Tabora picked up where

Illahi left off in the fourth canto, as he registered 8 points and three of Erika's final four baskets for their 15-point winning margin.

Open

Blue Haus 72 — Esdrelon 22, Talania 17, Demapan 10, Fernando 8, Manalo 7, De Dios 6, Berline 2.

Cholos 64 — Lizama 14, Tabora 12, Zalgatar 8, Rangamar 7, Ritual 4, Hernandez 4, Laguimdan 4, Lerio 3, Norita 3, Tobias 2, Tagle 2, Capalad 1.

Scoring by quarters: 13-18, 34-30, 50-47, 72-64.

Masters

Erika's/Ferrera 81 — Tabora 20, Catalla 16, Villasan 14, Illahi 12, Jo. Gatdula 7, Ja. Gatdula 3, Lansang 3, Borja 2, De Belen 2, Manabat 2, Quemado 1.

Maplas 65 — Yalung 20, Manuel 13, Corong 12, Samson 10, Jumaquiao 4, Surima 4, Salazar 3.

Scoring by quarters: 20-16, 41-31, 61-44, 81-66.

BIKE

From Page 28

must be at least 1.6 inches or larger in width, and 1.5 inches or less for road bikes are also required by race organizers. A parent or guardian's consent form must also be signed if the participant is under the age of 18.

The race route starts at PIC's south parking lot and head toward Airport and Tun Herman Pan roads before turning right to Isa Drive where riders continue

down to in Capitol Hill.

From Capitol Hill bikers will turn right to Chalan Pale Arnold and go to Wing Beach where the U-turn slot is located. From Wing Beach they will head back to Beach Road until they reach the finish line at PIC.

Last year, veteran Nap Dizon bested youth riders Erico Castro and Jerome Diyco in the road bike event. Castro and Diyco finished second and third.

George De Guzman topped the MTB division while Edwin Morales and Noel Altamirano

GCA fielding one apiece.

SDA played against the Geckos yesterday in the middle school and won in two sets.

Saiki, who coordinates the league, said they allow many teams from one school to compete this season as the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization has yet to begin its tournament. Saiki's SIS Geckos have over 70 players spread into eight squads.

The Geckos are hoping to regain the middle school championship they lost to Mt. Carmel

settled for second and third, respectively.

Jacklyn Van Natta won a two-cornered fight against Lynn Tenorio in the female MTB category, while Susan Marchitti bested Beth Kohnon in the road bike.

Pepsi, Monster, Calvo's Insurance, and IT&E are also supporting the event that will give out medals and other prizes to the top three male and female riders.

For more information, call Dennis Tababa at 237-5147 or email dennis.tababa@pic-saipan.com.

last season. The Knights defeated SIS in last year's finale, 26-24, 25-13, for their first middle school crown since joining the league in 2007.

Games in this year's COPSSA volleyball league have started last week, but some matches were suspended due to rain. Elimination round games will run until next month, while the playoffs is tentatively set first week of December. Matches are played every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, while make-up games are also scheduled every Friday.



Murphy homers again, Mets sweep Cubs to reach World Series

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Gross eyes December or January MISO opening

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Blue Haus victorious in debut



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Blue Haus played steadier in the home-stretch to beat Cholos 8th Division, 71-64, in its debut game in the open division of the 2015 San Antonio Community Action Network Basketball League last Tuesday at the San Antonio court.



Blue Haus closed out the last five minutes and change of the game with a 13-4 run to make it to the win column of the West Group and hand Cholos 8th Division (formerly Pacman) its second loss in three games.

Five different players hit the board for Blue Haus' strong finish, while Cholos was limited to

two field goals in the last 5:10 of the match. Cholos' Pete Lizama drilled a triple going into the final five minutes of the game to knot the count, 59-all, before his team had a scoring drought. Cholos was without a field goal for over three minutes before Mark Zalgatar nailed a reverse layup to break their silence.

See BLUE on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Cholos 8th Division's Derrick Rangamar attacks the defense of Blue Haus' Brendon Talania, left, and Marlon De Dios during the third quarter of their open division game in the San Antonio caging last Tuesday at the San Antonio court.

Bike For Life to push through

Organizers of the Bike For Life will push through with the 50-kilometer race at 6am tomorrow with the start and finish line at the south parking lot of the Pacific Islands Club Saipan in San Antonio.

"We're expecting a pretty good turnout. We're hoping



the weather cooperates but the bike race will move forward," said PIC Sports Entertainment and Activities director Glenn Policare.

The annual event has been one of the races that attracts local bikers with some using it as a warp up for the Hell of the Marianas in December.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The low price bike race, with a \$10 registration fee that includes a continental breakfast, is a fundraising event where proceeds will go to the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

"The race is one of PIC's events that has been a huge success. It is important for us to continue with community and charity events like this. PIC has always supported the community," added Policare.

The race is divided in the mountain bike and road bike events in both male and female divisions. Bicycles used for triathlon races will be allowed provided that riders won't use tribars for safety purposes.

A minimum of 16-spoke wheels and mountain bike tires

See BIKE on Page 26

SIS sweeps opener in high school v-ball

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Saipan International School 1 debuted with a sweep over Agape Christian School in the girls high school division of the 2015-2016 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League yesterday at the ACS court in Middle Road.

SIS 1 is composed of Adele Hudkins, Jennifer Tan, Sakura Imaaya, Gillian Villagomez, Shirley Quian, Chloe Kosack, Minami Sakai, Min Jin Jang,

Juliana Hanson, and Angie Kim. Mili Saiki is the coach. The Lady Geckos have another squad in the girls high school division, while Mt. Carmel School has also entered two squads, and Grace Christian Academy is represented by one.

In the boys high school division, the As Lito-based school was also victorious in its first game with SIS 1 downing Agape, too in two sets. Brothers Colin and Quintin Ramsey anchor SIS 1's roster and are joined by Daniel Lim, Luther

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan International School 1 players and coach Mili Saiki, standing fifth left, pose for a photo after winning over Agape Christian School in the girls high school division of the COPSSA volleyball league yesterday at the ACG court.

